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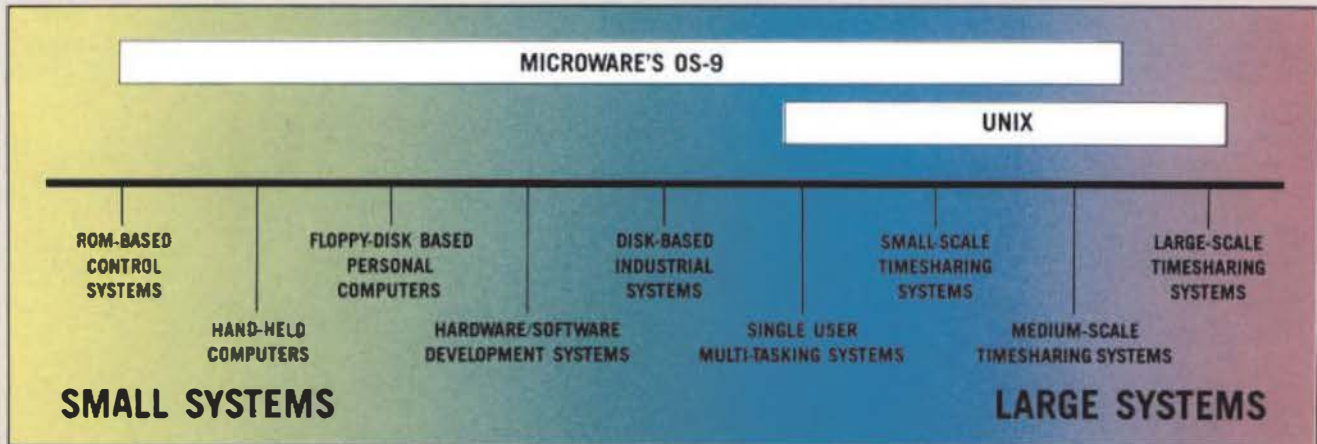
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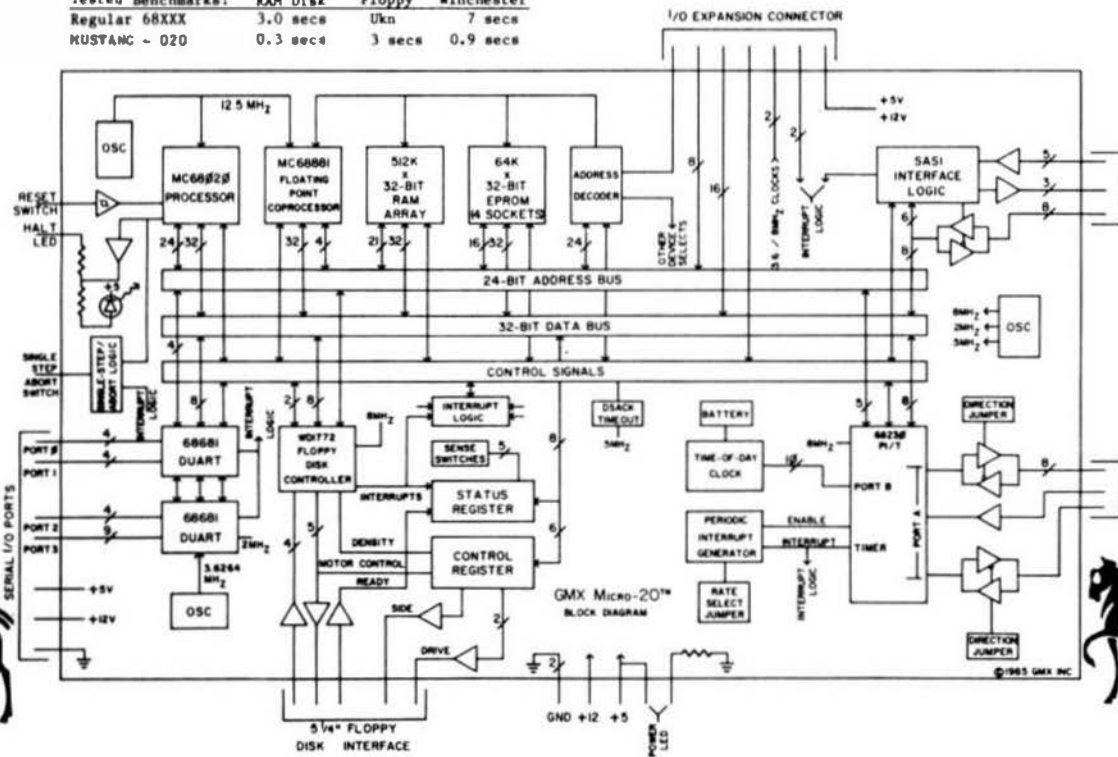


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By: Ronald W. Anderson
As published in 68 MICRO JOURNAL™

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Languages

Every couple of years in the process of doing this column I have done a column primarily about the various computer languages. It has been a couple of years since the last one so I thought I would again get into the subject (which generally gets me into trouble with some readers). The question always comes up as to why there are so many languages. Each one has its specific area of application where it really "shines". Some languages fit a particular programmer's personality better than others. Some of us are organized to the nth degree and can use a language that requires that we pay very careful attention to detail. Others, like me, are disorganized bumblers that charge right in and start programming. We require a language that forces us to be a bit more organized. With this in mind, let's proceed to the discussion.

BASIC

In my discussion of languages, BASIC always comes first. It was designed to be simple and easy to learn. BASIC does a number of things automatically that are left to the choice of the programmer in other languages. For example, BASIC doesn't require any sort of "format" statement for the output of numbers. PRINT A will get you the value of A on your screen or paper in some "reasonable" format. If A is within a reasonable range, like 10000 or 0.000123, it will be printed in just that way. If it is too small or too big, it will be printed as 1.23E-8 or 7.69503E24. The switch from standard notation to scientific is automatic and requires no instruction from the programmer. Of course most BASIC interpreters have some sort of format statement so that you can print "real" numbers to three or five decimal places, and they have PRINT USING statements adopted straight from COBOL's PIC statement (PICTure). These later additions to BASIC are obvious attempts to overcome the limitations. That is not really very important to this discussion. The point is that BASIC frees the beginner from even thinking about such details as number formats. He doesn't even have to worry about whether his numbers are floating point or integer types.

Because of the freedom from detail, BASIC is a very good language to learn as a first computer language. BASIC is usually implemented as an interpreter. That means that it looks directly at your program text and interprets it as it is running. You change a line of program and run it again instantly. That makes it very easy to "debug" a BASIC program. Most all of the BASIC interpreters allow editing of the program without ever leaving the BASIC interpreter. Many offer some fairly sophisticated editing features, though some require you to retype a whole line to remove a comma or add an extra right paren at the end of the line.

BASIC is not without its limitations, however. All of its variables are "GLOBAL". That is, every variable is accessible by every part of the program. The disadvantage of that may not be apparent at this point. Just let me say that LOCAL variables are an aid in keeping the various parts of a large program from interfering with one another.. what the programming theorists call "side effects". BASIC requires a LINE

NUMBER on every line of code. It generally doesn't allow you to use meaningful variable names or program labels. COSUB 1340 doesn't give the reader of the program much clue as to what the subroutine does. In another language that is procedure oriented, the same instruction might be CALCULATE AVERAGE; which is certainly more informative of the function of the subroutine. Then there is the limitation of variable names being only two characters at most. Some BASICs allow longer variable names but only the first two letters are significant to the interpreter. Consider the following calculation of PAY using HOURS and RATE.

```
10 IF HR <= 40 THEN PA=HR*RT ELSE PA=40*RT+(HR-40)*1.5*RT
```

Of course in BASIC that would be on one line. Now look at the same calculation in Pascal:

```
IF HOURS <= 40 THEN PAY = HOURS * RATE  
ELSE PAY = 40 * RATE +(HOURS-40)*1.5*RATE
```

Because of these limitations, BASIC users don't generate programs that are the most readable to someone else. An unfortunate leftover from the days when microcomputers had very limited memory, is the tendency of some BASIC programmers to run statements all together on one line without any spaces, making them almost impossible for anyone but the original programmer to read.

In an effort to overcome the variable name limitation and the label limitation, many "BASIC pre-compilers" have been written. These take a program in which the programmer has used reasonably long variable names and labels, and converts his text to a form acceptable to the BASIC interpreter. That is, it takes HOURS, PAY, and RATE and converts them to A, B, and C. There are two difficulties with such a pre-compiler. First it adds another step to the use of BASIC. It no longer is a simple interpreter. Change the program and you have to run it through the pre-compiler again. Secondly, the pre-compiler output produces variable names that are even less meaningful than you could assign using two letter names available in BASIC.

If I found like I am being critical of BASIC, I am, but I use it very frequently. It has GREAT utility in doing little short one time use programs, and in exploring ways of calculating some particular quantity (Algorithm exploration). I use it frequently for what I call exploratory programming. BASIC has very complete functions for handling "strings". A "string" is a string or line of characters to be handled like text, for output to a printer or terminal. Everyone needs a good BASIC interpreter!

I understand that the authors of BASIC (Kerny and Kurtz) are now actively working on a new standard that has variable names labels, and many of the loop control structures of Pascal (WHILE DO and REPEAT UNTIL). I have not seen any ads for the new BASIC just yet however. These additions will be welcome, and will make BASIC programs vastly more readable.

Because BASIC is an interpreted language, it tends to be slower than some of the higher level languages, and

can be literally 100 times slower than the same program written in assembler. For a complex program with a lot of calculations, there are better ways to go.

Pascal

Pascal's strong points are many. It was written primarily to be a language with which to learn structured programming techniques. Pascal probably more than any other language, forces the programmer to think about what he is doing. It is very strong on the "typing" of variables. You must "declare" each variable before it is used, and you must decide whether the variable is to be of type INTEGER, REAL, CHAR, or BOOLEAN. In addition to those types you can define your own variable types, enumerating the values that they can assume. You can define a TYPE DAYS_OF_WEEK with the values (SUN, MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT) and can then create variables of that type.

```
PAY:REAL;
DAY: DAYS_OF_WEEK;
```

The real improvement over BASIC in the other newer languages is the ability to bundle a number of program statements together into one "compound" statement. It is always awkward in BASIC to do multiple things with an IF THEN ELSE. If you need more than one program statement for either the THEN or the ELSE, you have to resort to IF... THEN GOTO... STATEMENTS.. GOTO. In Pascal it is easy:

```
IF A>B THEN
BEGIN
  B:=B+1;
  K:=K*2;
END
ELSE
BEGIN
  A:= A-1;
  K:=K DIV 2;
END;
```

BEGIN and END are "brackets" that surround a number of program statements that are to be considered one statement. In addition, a statement that won't fit on one line may be split onto two or several lines. The semicolon signals the end of a statement. Actually, the END signals the end of the statement before it, so that statement doesn't require a semicolon, but the semicolon does no harm there, and if it is not there, I always add a statement just before the END and forget to put the semicolon on the previous statement.

Pascal is a very picky language. Because it forces you to declare your intentions explicitly, it catches many errors that would get by a less picky compiler. If you assign the value of a real number to an integer, you have to tell Pascal that you know what you are doing, by using the function ROUND or the function TRUNC. Round rounds the real value to the nearest integer, and TRUNC chops off the fractional part. If K= 2.71828, K:=ROUND(K) would result in K=3. K:=TRUNC(K) would result in K=2. Note that the assignment statement in Pascal requires you to use := (read as becomes equal to). This distinguishes assignments from equality tests as in IF A=B.

I can say from long experience that once a program gets through a Pascal Compiler, it will probably run without crashing, though it may not do precisely what the programmer intended.

All of the Pascal implementations for the 6809 are Compilers as opposed to Interpreters. There are two different kinds of compilers however. One type generates what is called Pseudo Code. The Pseudo code instructions are then interpreted by a simple interpreter. This has

the advantage that the same compiler can be used to generate Pseudo code on several different processors, and only the Pseudo code (P-Code) interpreter has to be rewritten to accommodate a different processor. Another advantage of P-Code is that it is generally very efficient. It generates less code than some of the other approaches to a compiler. The other kind of compiler is called a "Native Code" compiler. These generally generate Assembler Source code which must be assembled (generally with a relocatable assembler) and then processed by a "linker - loader". The native code compilers generally generate more code for the same program than the P-code compilers. The native code, however generally runs faster. Native code compilers tend to be multi-pass so that they take considerably longer to compile a program of a given size than the P-Code compilers.

Because Pascal was designed as a teaching tool, and perhaps because it was designed before microcomputers became available, it has no specific file handling procedures. As a result, those who implemented Pascal compilers for Microcomputers each went in a different direction in implementing disk files. This severely limits the "portability" of a Pascal program. Generally all file handling statements have to be rewritten before a program that runs on one compiler will compile on another.

Pascal allows the user to define a data RECORD, a collection of various data types grouped together as an entity. This feature is very valuable in data processing, for setting up data file structures.

Pascal has some very nice qualities. I've tried several times to start to write an article on programming in general trying to use no particular language. I always find that my "pseudo code" is so much like Pascal that I might as well use Pascal for the examples. Pascal programs need few comments. They are very much "self documenting" when written by a programmer who chooses meaningful variable names and procedure names. I strongly recommend that anyone who wants to program in "C" ought to learn Pascal first. More on that below.

"C"

Excuse me if I just use C without the quotes here. C is a language that is similar to Pascal in that it has all the various loop control constructs, but with slightly different syntax. C was primarily designed to be used as a language in which to write system software (operating systems and utilities). Unix is written in C.

Generally C is a little more loose in its syntax than Pascal. It assumes that you know what you are doing. Someone has described C as a "Pascal that is not afraid to get its hands dirty". C is less wordy than Pascal, relying on symbols to a greater extent. For example, BEGIN and END are reduced to the familiar "curly braces" { and }. Pascal uses IF THEN. C uses IF (condition) without the word THEN. That is, the condition is enclosed in parentheses. C lets you print an integer to the terminal or add a number to a character which is something even BASIC won't let you do.

```
10 PRINT CHR$(7)      BASIC
WRITE(CHR(7));       Pascal
putchar(7);          C
```

```
IF CH IN [a..z] THEN CH =CHR(ORD(CH)-32);   Pascal
if (ch>='a' && ch<='z') ch=ch-32;          C
```

The second example converts lower case a-z to upper case A-Z. Pascal makes you convert the character CH to an integer using the ORD function, subtract 32 and convert the result back to a CHAR using the CHR function. C lets you subtract 32 from the ch value and doesn't complain. The function IN in Pascal is a nice shorthand way of saying IF CH >= "a" AND CH <= "z". The && in C is the logical AND function.

You can see by these short examples that C is more of a shorthand language that uses more symbols and less words. It lets the programmer who is in the know "cheat" more than Pascal does. It lets the programmer who is not in the know get into trouble much more easily than Pascal does.

Incidentally the second example is hard to show in BASIC because a character as such doesn't exist in BASIC. Characters only exist as part of a string. You'd have to do approximately the following:

```
10 A$= "T"
20 C=ASCII(A$)
30 IF C >= 97 AND C <=123 THEN PRINT CHR$(C-32)
```

Perhaps now you can see why I think (along with many others) that you should learn Pascal before learning C. C is obviously a very useful language. It has more features and capabilities than Pascal, particularly in the area of "pointers", an area beyond the scope of this column. Pointers provide access to any memory address including hardware input output ports. C allows the user to define a data record, a collection of various types of data, called a Structure in C as opposed to the word RECORD in Pascal.

C has one overwhelming virtue. Nearly every implementation of it has followed the standard faithfully. C itself contains no machine dependent features. These are always implemented in a "runtime library" usually written in C. Most implementations follow the standard very closely so that such things as file handling are precisely the same from version to version. That makes programs written in C extremely portable or movable from system to system, even with different processors.

FORTH

Forth is distinguished as a language that is either loved or hated by a given programmer. Its proponents include a lot of very smart people who think it extremely useful and fast to use for program development. Forth comes complete with its own operating system, so that Forth on one computer looks exactly like Forth on another computer. Forth users can with little effort get right down to the hardware level of things. They claim that their programs are smaller and faster than the same program implemented in other languages. I had one Forth user tell me that his Forth programs were smaller in total code than the equivalent program written in Assembler! I dispute both the claim of speed and the claim of smallness. I have not yet seen the standard prime number benchmark run in Forth nearly as fast as C and Pascal implementations of the same program.

There is one undisputed statement that can be made about Forth. A program in Forth is generally more concise (the source text that is) by at least a factor of 2 than any of the languages discussed above. You can without doubt do more with less source code in Forth than most languages (probably API excluded). Try Forth. If it fits your needs and your personality, by all means go at it.

Special Languages

There are a couple of languages around that were designed particularly to fit the features of the 6809 processor. The two that immediately come to mind are PL/9 and Whimsical. PL/9 follows the model of PL/M, Intel's language written for the 8080. It also follows a language by Tom Croley called SPL/M written for the 6800 several years ago. These are all low level languages, lower than Pascal or C, at least, but not nearly as low level as Assembler. PL/9 has most of the features of Pascals with the exception of the very rigid data typing. Arithmetic may be done in "mixed mode". That is a calculation that mixes REAL and INTEGER data types may be

performed and the result assigned to a REAL variable. The rules for what happens are fairly straightforward, and functions are available for forcing the calculation to proceed in a manner other than the "default". PL/9 is a compiled language, though the 6809 machine code is generated in a single pass. PL/9 is missing a few of the niceties of some of the other languages such as linking in pre compiled modules, though the single pass compiler generally is several times faster compiling the same program (even though it has to compile all the modules every time) than the C or Pascal compilers.

Being somewhat more limited in scope, PL/9 requires a little more of the programmer, but not much. PL/9 generates very efficient output code, usually about half as much as the equivalent C program.

Someone asked me to describe the difference between PL/9 and Whimsical recently. I said that PL/9 was more loosely constructed like C, while Whimsical was rigid like Pascal.

Whimsical is indeed a very fine language. It is VERY much like Pascal. Typing of variables is rigid and type conversion functions must be used to perform mixed mode arithmetic calculations. It generates very efficient code (even more efficient than PL/9) and compiles quickly also. It allows the inclusion of pre-compiled modules in a program, and the use of such modules speeds up the compilation process, though for the equivalent program and no pre-compiled modules, it takes about twice as long as PL/9 to compile. Both languages have excellent support from their authors and suppliers. Both have been around long enough to be just about bug free. Both are designed to take advantage of the specific hardware of the 6809.

Assembler

Originally the only choice for Microprocessor based system users, Assembler is still the choice of many programmers. Some see it as "the only way to go". Since most of you have read my continuing debate here with Dan Farnsworth of Compiler vs Assembler, I won't elaborate further. I recently finished writing a screen editor in PL/9. It was a little slow in some of its functions and I was able to substitute "ASMPROC" procedures for about 2% of the total code and speed it up by a factor of three or four. I simply coded the most repeated loops (places where the program spent most of its time) in Assembler. In many cases speed was of little consequence. If the program can handle my typing on the terminal so that it doesn't miss characters, that is adequately fast. In other cases though, such as searching through the entire file for a word, or going from the bottom of the file to the top, I found myself waiting for the computer. Speeding up the major time consuming loops in those cases made the program run much faster. In order to take advantage of such optimization, of course, you have to know how to program in Assembler. I think you are short changing yourself if you don't get into it a little, at least enough to be able to understand someone else's program.

Assembler is very efficient when the programmer uses it properly. An assembler program is very detailed, very specific to the particular processor, and its source listing is much longer than that for the equivalent program in a higher level language (from five to ten times as long, in fact). For some applications, Assembler is obviously the way to go.

Conclusion

I've obviously used up more than my allotted space this time. Long time readers may want to dig up what I said last time and see if my opinions have changed a little in a few years. Next time we will get back to the regular monthly FLEX feature.

- - -

OS-9

User Notes

Peter Dibble
19 Fountain Street
Rochester, NY 14620

OS-9/68K

Friends, I have made a decision. I'm going to get a 68K system. If I can't afford any better it may be a 68008 system, but it will have at least a half a megabyte of memory, a hard disk drive, and OS-9/68K. If I have to live on peanut butter sandwiches to save the money I'll do it. I'll have to return my borrowed 68008 system soon and going "cold turkey" would probably kill me.

I got a 68008 system on loan a few weeks ago. It came with 512K bytes of memory and two 96tpi floppies. I didn't like it very much at first. I bought a hard disk for my Cimix years ago. Faster disk access sounded good, but what I really wanted was one system disk. My 1.2M Quines overflowing and I just couldn't get used to swapping floppies like an MSDOS user. OS-9/68K with its standard utilities just barely fits on a DSDD 96tpi disk. There's no room for extras -- certainly not the C compiler. I soon realized how spoiled I have become.

Fortunately Priority One has been selling Shugart hard disk drives for \$99. I sent for one with the appropriate cables (one 50-pin socket to socket, one 20-pin socket to card edge, and one 34-pin socket to card edge). I've been talking to Bobby Phillips at Cimix about their 68020 board -- I've been dreaming. He's had nice things to say about the OMTI hard disk controller boards so I tracked an OMTI 5300 down at Arrow Electronics for about \$270. I plugged everything together and adjusted the hard disk device descriptor for the OMTI controller and the Shugart drive.

It all worked. It's always a pleasant surprise when that happens. I formatted the new drive and copied everything onto it. Then I started really using the system. Microware has obviously put a lot of work into the 68000. Ease-of-use must have been their watchword. You might think (correctly of course) that they had been using OS-9 for years and knew just what it needed if only they had enough memory to do it. The 68000 gave them enough memory and they did it. Let me give you a few examples.

The shell supports some wild-card matching. A command like:

```
$ del *.r
```

works. It deletes all files with a .r suffix.

The copy command has a -r, for replace, option; when that option is set copy will copy over an existing file if it has to. There is a -w=<directory> option that causes copy to copy a list of files into the named directory. When I wanted to back all my C files up onto a floppy the command:

```
$ copy *.c *.h -w=/d0/C.BACKUP
```

did the trick.

The C compiler has -t=<directory> that lets you specify a directory for C's work files. You put them on the ram disk for a remarkable speedup.

DSave lets you copy only files that are newer than corresponding files in the destination directory. In the assembler the C preprocessor convention of surrounding an included file's name in brackets, <file.h>, applies to the use directive.

```
use <default>
```

goes directly to /dd/defa/default. But that's not generally required. The new policy is to resolve system dependent names with the linker. You don't include system definitions when you assemble; when you link you include /dd/lib/sys.l which resolves all the system names.

A REAL debugger. It can single-step. Symbols that were declared as globals are available. It disassembles as it goes showing addresses relative to global symbols. I found it quite useful for debugging C programs when they were linked with the -g option (for preserve global symbol information I guess). I bet the debugger alone has saved me at least two hours of debugging time already.

It sounds a bit like I'm in love doesn't it. Well I'm not the romantic type. I always look for the dark cloud attached to the silver lining. One problem is obvious. I've got to give this back. That means that I have to find the money for my own system. Prices range from \$1000 up, plus enclosure and peripherals. I'd really like the Cimix, but if they charge the \$3000 that I've been guessing as the most it's likely to cost, I don't think I'll be able to afford it. (Of course, if you all buy lots of my books ...)

Another problem: can you imagine the number of 6809 assembly language programs I've written. I like programming of course, but I feel daunted. Converting just the most important ones ... groan!

The hardest part of the dark cloud for me to face is that the software is a little buggy. Nothing serious of course, but the utility commands got my guard down, I was still dazzled by them when I dug into the guts of the system. I was upset when I found that the inside of OS-9/68K has some flaws.

I'll be specific. The Ev\$Create option of the the F\$Event SVC returns the event ID of the new event in register DD. That's consistent with the other options of the P\$Event SVC, but the manual says the ID will be returned in OI. The C function chown opens the file who's owner it's changing and leaves it open. This is an easy problem to miss if you don't try to delete a file after you do a chown but before the chown'er terminates.

I've passed over problems like that on my Cimix with a comment or a note in the margin of my manual. On the 68K version they are more upsetting because the finish on the system is generally so smooth.

I suspect that if I found a few bugs in a week of hard work I'll uncover dozens more over the next few months. Judging from my experience so far I'd be surprised if there were any important bugs at the application level. The utility programs run smoothly, and the standard SVCs and C functions all seem fine.

You might want to note the error in the Ev\$Create SVC in your manual. I've included a version of chown that works correctly with this column. If you include it on the command line when you compile C programs that use chown it will replace the standard version:

```
cc program.c chown.r ...
```

I got the first system I could find with a 6809 in it. I was one of the first OS-9 Level Two users. I have stayed away from the 68000 mostly because I couldn't afford one, but partly because I've been happy with what I have. Now I'm going to move. Fellow 6809 users, I recommend that you move too. The grass is really greener on the 68K side.

There has been a great deal of discussion about the speed of the 68008. Most people seem to have run benchmarks that indicate that it is slower than the 6809. My subjective opinion is that the 68008 is at least as fast as the 6809. Look at the 68008 as an

8-bit chip. It has lots of big registers and a big address space. Where does this leave the 6809?

I've been hoping that Microware would move all the nice features from OS-9/68K to OS-9. They have a stated policy of keeping the versions of OS-9 compatible as much as possible, but I'd be astonished if they were able to move much of the 68K software to the 6809. Level One systems are already tight on memory. The 68K software would push them way over the edge. Level Two systems could take the load if Microware got clever with address space. (Those of you who use IBM mainframes and watched them struggle before they went to XA have a model for the kind of things Microware could do.) I don't think Microware will make that effort. I believe that they will keep Level One and Level Two compatible. The 68K features that they can move they will, but there will be a lot that will remain for the 68K only.

Here's the single-board 68K system configuration I plan on. Note that the single-board isn't specified. I'll fill that in when I know what I can afford.

- * Single-board 680xx with at least 512K bytes
- * OMT1 5300 SCSI controller
 - Handles a tape drive and two hard disks
- * A Hard disk drive
 - At most 40 ms average access time
 - At least 20 Megabytes (I think I'll use the Quantum drive that Priority One is selling for \$999)
- * A 5.25" DSDD 96tpi floppy drive
- * A power supply
 - It looks like this system will need about 10 amps at 5 volts and 5 amps at 12 volts.

That's more than I've seen in a single-board computer box.

The AT replacement power supplies in Byte look good

* An enclosure

If I can't find a small enclosure with enough space for a big power supply I'll use one of the AT-alike cabinets.

I don't know of a device driver for a cartridge tape drive on OS-9/68K, so paying the extra money for the OMT1-5300 seems like a bit of a waste. Maybe I'll have time to write a driver for it. If you've ever spent the hours it takes to back a hard disk up to floppy(!!!), you'll understand why I gambled \$70 on the tape support.

I'm back in school now. This column will probably stay pretty short until I get a break.

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <unistd.h>
3 #include <fcntl.h>
4 #include <direct.h>
5 char *File, *Owner;
6 char *File;
7 int Owner;
8
9 int _go_gfd();
10 int _go_gfd();
11 register int path;
12 struct i1dcb buffer;
13
14 if((path = open(File, O_RDONLY)) == EOF)
15     return EOF;
16 if(_go_gfd(path, &buffer, sizeof buffer) == EOF){
17     close(path);
18     return EOF;
19 }
20 _strace(buffer.fd_owr, ((char *) &Owner) + 2, 2);
21 if(_go_gfd(path, &buffer) == EOF){
22     close(path);
23     return EOF;
24 }
25 close(path);
26 return 0;
27 }
```

68000 User Notes

Philip Lucido
2320 Saratoga Drive
Saratoga, CA 95070

***** -- when I last ended this column, I promised the next month's column would return with useful information, after a dreary tirade about lacking anything to write about. The only problem is that column appeared two months ago (assuming I get this thing sent in time for the proper issue - sorry, Don).

OK, obviously I didn't have anything to write about last month. Fact is, I came very close to quitting the column biz, because I lacked the energy to even turn my computer systems on after coming home from work. If I didn't even use the computers this column was ostensibly based upon, how could I keep cranking this thing out?

An answer to that question appeared when I called Don Williams to explain my predicament and try to quit. He wouldn't let me! Instead, he came up with a pretty good idea. While I may not always have something useful to say about OS-9 or the Macintosh, there are (hopefully) a fair number of you out there who would simply like to learn about programming in assembly language on the 68000, a subject which I can certainly blather on about for many months.

So that's where things now stand. Expect to see a tutorial covering 68000 assembly language programming (known as AL from now on) in this space for the time being. I've taught AL before (for the 6809), so with a little luck this will be more than an exercise in filling space, and will prove helpful to many of you out there.

The change of direction has already had a benefit for me. While getting ready to start this column, I was working with some minor test programs using the OS-9 assembler and debugger, when I discovered that symbolic debugging capabilities were now included. For some reason, I was sure that these were planned for the future, but as yet unimplemented. When it turned out I was wrong, I ended up spending the entire evening in front of the terminal, playing with the debugger - the first real recreational use of my computers in many months! Who knows, maybe the burnout can still fade away. (For those of you who don't know what symbolic debugging is, keep reading - it figures heavily in the way I plan to teach AL.)

Beginnings Are Tricky Matters

I need to specify some ground rules here, before I get started. First, it's not easy to know what level of knowledge at which to pitch these columns. For one thing, 68MJ obviously has a very capable readership, and many of you are already familiar with programming in some

AL. Too elementary a tone risks boring you. If I assume too much knowledge, though, I run the opposite risk of losing the very people the tutorial is aimed at. I have no real choice but to take things rather slowly at first. I would certainly be interested in your letters. Please tell me if I'm going too slow or too fast for your tastes.

There are a couple of matters concerning how I cover programming in AL. For one, I must teach the simple mechanics, such as the various opcodes and addressing modes. Equally important, though, is the use of advanced programming techniques made possible by the power of the 68000. Programming in assembly for the 68000 is qualitatively different from programming the various 8 bit processors. This is due to the abundance of registers, addressing modes, and opcodes available. Just knowing what each is capable of is not enough. You should really know something about using all together in an efficient manner. Therefore, expect this column to slip into matters of programming philosophy from time to time.

Finally, I am a firm believer in the learn by doing principle (if it's good enough for me, ...). You can't really hope to get a good feel for AL by reading about it. This means my examples must be things you can try out for yourself. Unfortunately, this forces me to choose a particular operating system to use. The main contenders, being those I have here at home, are OS-9 and the Macintosh OS. While the Mac may be more user friendly, it can also be terribly difficult to program. OS-9 is not without faults as a learning tool, since any program you develop must use the OS-9 module format, and must be position independent, forcing me to introduce some complicated ideas much sooner than I would prefer. Still, OS-9 has that symbolic debugger, which is much nicer to use than the MacaBug debugger. I will therefore be talking about OS-9 most of the time, though I will attempt to say something about using other machines and operating systems so I don't lose too many people.

These are the things you should have to follow along: First, a working assembler and, if at all possible, an assembly language debugger. As I said, I will be using the OS-9 assembler package (made up of r68, l68, and other miscellaneous files), and the OS-9 debugger, debug. Next, a 68000 AL reference is most useful. The standard, from Motorola, is M68000 16/32-Bit Microprocessor Programmer's Reference Manual, part # M68000UM(AD4), which is published by Prentice-Hall. I'm not sure how to get it, though I suppose you can try ordering it at any local bookstore (from Prentice-Hall), or perhaps straight from Motorola. Finally, there is a small fan-fold programming reference card, Motorola part number MC68000(AC1), which concisely organizes most of the information you need at hand when actually programming.

Look, Ma - Sixteen Fingers!

Now to start, I have the semi-obligatory explanation of binary and hexadecimal notation. First, consider how we count using the decimal, or base 10, system. Starting with 0, in the one's column, we count up to 1, 2, 3, and so on up to 9. We have now used up all of the single digits, so for the next number, we start the one's column at 0, while the next column to the left, the ten's column, moves from 0 (which we didn't bother showing) to the next digit, 1. That is, 10 follows 9 (easy, huh?). We continue counting by adding 1 to the number in the one's column (that's known as incrementing), until we get to 19. As before, we go back to 0 in the one's column, and increment the value in the ten's column, 20. After we get to 99, we are forced to use yet another column, the hundred's.

Now suppose that instead of ten separate digits 0 to 9, we only have two, 0 and 1. We count in the same way as before, except when a column reaches 1, the next increment will go back to 0, and we have to move to the next column to the left. This is binary, or base 2. Counting in binary, we have 0, 1, 10, 11, 100, 101, 110, 111, 1000, 1001, 1010, corresponding to zero through ten.

So much for counting in sequence, which is obviously very simple. A trickier problem is converting between decimal and binary representations of the same number. No matter what base you represent a number in, each column has a particular "weight" which it adds to the number's value. Thus, in decimal, we have the one, ten, hundred columns. Because of this, a 1 in the hundred's column means a larger number than a 1 in the ten's column. This is known as "positional" notation.

In binary, the columns, from the right side, have weights one, two, four, eight, and so on. Each column has a value exactly twice the value of the column on the immediate right. To convert binary to decimal, we just add up the column weights for all the columns with a 1 in them. Thus, 1010 binary is eight plus two, or 10 decimal. Similarly, 10011001 binary is (decimal) $128+16+8+1$, or 153 decimal. To convert decimal to binary, we subtract the largest binary column value possible, corresponding to a 1 in that column, and keep converting, using the number left over. Thus, for 100 decimal, 64 is the largest column, and $100 - 64 = 36$. The next column value to use is 32, leaving $36 - 32 = 4$, which is itself a column value. Thus, 100 decimal is 1100100 binary.

A note of terminology here. A bit, which you've certainly heard of before, stands for binary digit, so a bit is just one column in a binary number.

In base 16 or hexadecimal notation (hex for short) we have sixteen different single digits. These are 0 to 9, as normal, followed by the "digits" A, B, C, D, E, and F, corresponding to the values ten to fifteen. Don't let the letters throw you. Hex still works like binary and decimal, so the number after F hex is 10 hex, 2A hex follows 29H, 100 hex follows FF hex, etc. In hex, the column values are (decimal) 1, 16, 256, and so on by powers of sixteen.

In converting hex to decimal, we must now multiply a column value by the digit in that column, and add the results, so 123 hex is $1*256 + 2*16 + 3*1$ or 291 decimal. Converting decimal to hex involves finding the largest hex column value smaller than the number, finding how many times the column value divides the number, and using that value as the hex digit for that column. The number to convert is reduced by the column value times the hex digit, and the process repeated, until we get to the one's column. For instance, $1000/256$ is 3 with remainder 232, $232/16$ is 14 (or E hex) with remainder 8, and $8/1$ is 8, so 1000 decimal is 3E8 hex.

Now, if you know anything about computers, you've heard that they operate using lots of on-off switches, so it makes sense that they use binary notation, which is just a bunch of on-off switches (bits) lined up in a row. But why, you ask, is hex useful? Well, it obviously takes a lot of bits to represent a sizeable number. For example, 1000 decimal is 1111101000 binary. It turns out that it is very easy to convert between hex and binary, with the hex notation taking far fewer columns than binary. While we know that a computer is really doing things using binary numbers, then, we represent those numbers for human consumption in hex.

To convert hex to binary and binary to hex, you must first know the conversions for the values zero to fifteen:

Decimal	Binary	Hex	Decimal	Binary	Hex
0	0000	0	8	1000	8
1	0001	1	9	1001	9
2	0010	2	10	1010	A
3	0011	3	11	1011	B
4	0100	4	12	1100	C
5	0101	5	13	1101	D
6	0110	6	14	1110	E
7	0111	7	15	1111	F

Going hex to binary, just replace each hex digit with the equivalent four bits in binary, so ABC hex is

1010,1011,1100 or 101010111000 binary. From binary to hex, split the number into four bit sections from right, and replace each group of bits with the equivalent hex digit, e.g. binary 111101000 is 0011,1110,1000 is hex 3E8.

Having gone over base conversions, I'll now reveal that programmers rarely convert by hand. While it is important to understand the principles, there is no reason to put up with the drudgery involved. Instead, programmers typically use calculators like the TI Programmer or the HP-16C. Most debuggers have conversion abilities, also. In OS-9's debug, the 'v' command does conversion duties, printing both the hex and decimal representations of a number. To convert hex 3E8 to decimal, enter the command 'v 3E8'. To convert 1000 decimal to hex, enter 'v #1000'. The pound sign before a number is debug's way of recognizing decimal notation, with hex being the default.

At this point, you might be wondering why, if the computer can convert from hex to decimal and back so easily, why bother with anything other than the familiar decimal? Well, since a computer actually uses binary, there are a number of places where it just makes more sense to stick with hex, which is binary's next-of-kin. For instance, in a 68000, memory addresses go from 0 to 16777215 decimal. This last is not an easy number to remember. In hex, though, the addresses are from 0 to FFFFFFFF, nice regular numbers which are much easier to handle.

Finally, a convention I'll use from now on. When talking about a particular value, you must be careful to specify what notation is being used. For example, faced with the value 1001, is this binary, decimal, or hex? To avoid confusion, prefixes are used to indicate the base. For binary, the prefix is 'B', while for hex it is '\$'. Decimal, being the notation we are most used to, takes no prefix. Thus, 1001 = \$3E9 = 1111101001. Be careful, though. This convention is not always true. In the OS-9 debugger, a number without a prefix is hex, while a decimal must have a prefix of 'd'.

Wasn't That Exciting!

I don't seem to have enough room left to get into the next topic, but like I said before, it's better to start slowly than to rush over the fundamentals. Most everybody out there probably already understands hex and binary, but it wouldn't do to abandon those who don't and need a tutorial like this to understand what will follow.

Anyway, next month I'll actually start demonstrating some actual 68000 AL. Also, unavoidably, I'm going to have to say some things about OS-9 memory modules, relocatable assemblers, and linkers, since that's what I'll be using. I'll also go into the operation of the debugger.

"C" User Notes

Edgar M. (Bud) Pass, Ph.D.
1454 Latta Lane
Conyers, Ga 30207

This chapter discusses the new version of the INTRNL C compiler for FLEX, UNIFLEX, and OS/9, the new version of the McNoah C compiler for FLEX (marketed by Windruah/S.E. MEDIA - ** see catalog this issue) and covers B-trees, as used in a text search algorithm. It also continues the C-Problems feature skipped in recent columns.

INTRNL C COMPILER FLEX UPDATES

The latest version (v.1.6) of the INTRNL C compiler contains several improvements and enhancements from earlier versions.

When specifying command line options for the INTRNL C compiler modules, a '-' may be substituted for an '~' and a ':' may be substituted for a ';'. This is an attempt to accommodate the peculiarities of the various operating systems under which the INTRNL C compiler runs.

A new utility program, called "coerge", is supplied with the new INTRNL C compiler. It merges a C source program with its corresponding assembler language source program to form a new assembler language source program containing each C source program statement, followed by the assembler language statements generated from that statement. This is a feature of most other C compilers which was missing from prior versions of the INTRNL C compilers. It is especially useful when debugging C programs from the assembler language listing.

A new option is provided to produce a assembler language program listing, which may be placed on the standard output or in a disk file.

The interpretation of the "extern" declaration has been changed to be the same as that used by UNIX. In a multi-module C program, each common variable should be declared with the "extern" declaration in all modules

except one, and should appear without the "extern" declaration in exactly one module.

The new preprocessor recognizes two new pseudo-macros, "LINE" and "FILE", which are automatically replaced by the current line number and current file name, respectively. This is expected to be used in debugging and in error messages. The preprocessor has been modified to check for the correct number of parameters in macro invocations, and to check for several other syntactical situations involving macros.

The compiler was modified to better check for end report several types of errors in the C source program and to properly allocate memory for partially initialized structures. It was also modified to correct several code generation problems, including the improper generation of "bra" when "lbra" should have been generated.

The new linker optionally provides a complete symbol cross-reference output file and renames certain linker output files to avoid naming conflicts with FLEX.

The new loader no longer automatically clears uninitialized data space to zeroes. A command-line option is available to force the clearing of uninitialized data space, if required.

Several compiler bugs were corrected in the new release. One involved the occasional generation of "bra" and similar short relative instructions when "lbra" and similar long relative instructions would have been generated. Another involved the incorrect generation of code involving both the U and X registers which caused the following statement to be processed incorrectly:

```
if ((*(ip + ((num >> 4) & 0x0f) + '0') > '9') ...
```

In testing a release version of this new compiler, I was able to verify the new features, but found one existing problem.

The INTRC C compilers do not handle quoted strings or redirection on the command line properly in FLEX. INTRC C once handled both quoted strings and redirection on the command line properly, but does not do so, as of version 1.5. Note that the "I" FLEX command does not offer a complete substitution for input redirection, as FLEX reverts to the terminal after the input file reaches end-of-file, and the user must manually enter control-D.

Contact ** S.E. MEDIA - see catalog this issue if you are interested in their new C compiler.

MCCOSH C COMPILER FLEX UPDATES

The latest version (v.26) of the FLEX version of the McCoah C compiler contains several improvements and enhancements and introduces one new problem. The McCoah Standard C Library and manual are also revised from earlier versions.

The I/O section of the Standard C Library was heavily modified. Random file processing was added, allowing the creation, accessing, seeking, and closing of FLEX random-type files, and allowing the random accessing and seeking of sequential files. The ability to open files to any device attached to the system was incorporated. Terminal access was enhanced by allowing "ttyaet" parameters to be altered from within a C program. The lower-level I/O functions, like "open" and "create", have been modified to allow the access to and creation of binary files. The higher-level I/O functions, like "printf", have been changed to buffer data in both directions. Direct access to the FLEX FMS PCB areas is now supported in a manner similar to that used by the INTRC C compiler for FLEX.

The "toupper" and "tolower" functions in the Standard C Library have been revised to check that their arguments are letters (of the appropriate case) before converting them to upper or lower case. K and R is ambiguous on this point, causing a great amount of inconsistency on the handling of these functions. However, the UNIX System V C compiler Standard C Library "toupper" and "tolower" functions check their arguments before converting them.

The "exit" function now places its argument (assumed to be of type "unsigned char" into location \$CC20. Thus subsequent programs may check this value and act according to its contents. Since there are versions of FLEX which do not preserve registers across system calls, the compiler now saves all "unused" registers before each system call and restores them afterward.

The McCoah C compiler now recognizes the "unsigned char" type, representing each byte as decimal values 0 to 255, rather than -128 to +127, for the "char" type.

A new section of the manual describes in much greater detail than previously how to generate stand-alone programs written in the C language. It also provides a short monitor (written in C and assembler code) which could be used as-is or as a basis for more sophisticated dedicated use. The monitor is also provided on the release diskette to assist those wanting to use it.

Another new section of the manual provides a set of functions (written by Ron Anderson and published in '68' Micro Journal) which implement the "sine", "cosine", "tangent", "arctangent", "absolute", "square root", "logarithm", "antilogarithm", "polynomial", and "exponential" scientific functions, which are not currently included in the McCoah Standard C Library.

In testing a pre-release version of this new compiler, I was able to verify some of the new features, but found several new problems and discovered that some previously-reported problems still existed. Since this information has already been sent to Windruah, perhaps some of the problems will be solved in the release version of the new compiler.

The "ttyaet" parameters are now incorrectly applied to output to the printer and through other precommands, such as "O". The revised McCoah Standard C Library needs to be modified to check for output being sent to other than a terminal device to prevent this problem. To avoid this problem, the user can set the "ttyaet" width and depth parameters to zero. In fairness to McCoah, TSC Extended BASIC has this same problem.

The buffering of all I/O except that going through stderr can cause some subtle problems in the order of program output to the standard output device and in the processing of random files. The user having problems with the order of program output to the standard output device may either insert calls on "fflush(stdout)" in appropriate locations, such as before each output to stderr, or may inhibit buffering on stdout with a call on "setbuf(stdout, NULL)" initially. The new random processing functions do not seem to work properly with buffered files, but seem to work correctly with calls on "setbuf(fp, NULL)" immediately after the files are opened.

Programs almost invariably generate larger programs under the new version of the compiler than under the older versions. This is critical only in the case of those programs, such as assemblers, data base managers, and others, which attempt to occupy as much memory as possible in order to improve performance and capabilities; and those which previously barely fit into available memory. Although I have not investigated the matter thoroughly, most of the inflation seems due to the new Standard C Library functions.

The problems related to the linkage of external variables among separately-compiled modules remain. The Microware version of the McCoah C compiler has fixed the majority of these problems.

The command line scanning bug reported earlier remains. Neither the McCoah nor INTRC C compilers handle quoted strings or redirection on the command line properly in FLEX. McCoah has apparently never handled either, although it claims to handle quoted strings on the command line properly. Note that the "I" FLEX command does not offer a complete substitution for input redirection, as FLEX reverts to the terminal after the input file reaches end-of-file, and the user must manually enter control-D.

If a preprocessor command is mis-spelled, the error message may be sent to a temporary file and discarded, sometimes causing weird results or truncated compilations with no seeming explanation. For instance, if "#define" is mis-spelled as "#difine", the compiler will quit with no error message printed on the terminal.

Contact ** S.E. MEDIA - Windruah if you are interested in their new C compiler.

B-TREE SEARCH ALGORITHM

B-Tree structures may be used to search and update large sets of data with great efficiency, using reasonably simple algorithms. They are especially suited for very large files in which higher-level indices may be kept in main memory for speed.

The first published description of B-trees was in 1972 by Bayer and McCreight in "Acta Informatica". Their definition of a B-Tree of order m (as modified by Knuth in "Sorting and Searching") is as follows:

1. Every node except the first has no more than m sons.
2. Every node except for first and final has no less than $(2m-1)/3$ sons.
3. The first node has at least 2 and no more than $2\lfloor(2m-2)/3\rfloor+1$ sons.

4. All final nodes appear on the same level.

5. All nonfinal nodes with k sons have k-1 keys.

Knuth provides the derivations of the upper and lower bounds for the performance of operations on B-trees, but they are extremely good. In particular, search operations are especially efficient with B-trees.

The insertion (and deletion) algorithms are slower and more complex than the search algorithm, as the nodes may require splitting (and joining). Luckily, many useful applications have no need of a deletion algorithm and perform many more search operations than insertion operations. The related binary search algorithm also has efficient search and slower insertion and deletion operations.

An example of such a B-tree program appears below. It copies non-duplicated lines from its standard input to its standard output, without sorting its input or requiring its input to be in order. It is intended to be used with a speller, after the words have been isolated, to eliminate duplicates before the words are looked up in the dictionary.

Although the B-tree it develops internally is sorted, the order of its output follows the order of its input. It could be modified to optionally suppress the output of the non-duplicated lines as they are read and to output the lines from the B-tree when its input has reached end of file. This would slow its use as a filter, as no output would be available while input were still being processed.

/* This program gets one line from its standard input and searches for the line in an evolving binary tree sorted alphabetically. If the line is not found, it is inserted in the tree and put to its standard output. If the line is found, it is not output.

Written by Bill Vaughn,
CVS, U of Rochester, Rochester, NY

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>
struct btreenode /* b-tree structure */
{
    char *str;
    struct btreenode *left, *right;
};
struct btreenode *head, *alloc, *hend;
struct btreenode *nextnode(), *allocbtree();
char *catore, *cend; /* char array beginning and end */
char *nextstr(), *alocstr(), *caloc(), *maloc(), *gets();
#define BNODES 4096 /* Init alloc for btree nodes */
#define STRING 4096 /* Init alloc for strings */
#define ADDNOD 1024 /* Add1 alloc for btree nodes */
#define ADDSTR 2048 /* Add1 alloc for strings */
main(argc, argv)
char *argv[];
{
    int n;
    char *q;
    struct btreenode *r;
    q = catore = alocstr(STRING); /* string space */
    cend = catore + STRING;
    if (gets(q) == NULL) /* get first line */
        exit(0);
    alloc = head = allocbtree(BNODES); /* tree nodes */
    hend = head + BNODES; /* logic depends upon caloc */
    alloc->str = q; /* to set all space to NULL */
    puts(q); /* output the line */
    q = nextstr(q); /* get new string pointer. */
    while (gets(q) != NULL)
    {
        r = head;
        while (n = strcmp(q, r->str))
        {
            if (n < 0)

```

```

char *calloc(n)
int n;
{
    char *x;
    x = abrk(n);
    if ((int)x == -1)
        return NULL;
    else
        return (x);
}
/* Allocates space with abrk and clears it
(replaces calloc). */
char *caloc(n,m)
int n,m;
{
    char *x;
    int i;
    x = abrk(i = n * m);
    if ((int)x == -1)
        return NULL;
    while (--i >= 0)
        x[i] = 0x00;
    return (x);
}

```

C PROBLEM

This program uses the string replace function (described in an earlier chapter) to provide a string replacement program, in which the file names and strings are provided on the command line. The McCosh PLEX command line scanning bug is handled (to the extent possible). The invocation sequence is as follows:

```
replace old-file new-file old-string new-string
```

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

main(argc,argv)
int argc;
char *argv[];
{
    char line[256], line1[256], *oldstring, *newstring, *x, p = 0;
    FILE *input, *output;
    int count = 0, c, z;

    puts ("\n", stderr);
    if (argc < 4)
    {
        fputs ("usage: replace old-file new-file ", stderr);
        fputs ("\"old-string\" \"new-string\"\\n", stderr);
        exit (1);
    }
    if (((input = fopen (++argv, "r")) == NULL) ||
        ((output = fopen (++argv, "w")) == NULL))
    {
        fputs ("can't open file ", stderr);
        fputs (*argv, stderr);
        exit (1);
    }
    if (*oldstring = ++argv == "") /* McCosh bug */
        for (x = oldstring + 1; *x; ++x)
            *(x - 1) = ((*x == "\n") ? "\u" : *x);
    if (*newstring = ++argv == "") /* McCosh bug */
        for (x = newstring + 1; *x; ++x)
            *(x - 1) = ((*x == "\n") ? "\0" : *x);
    while (fgets(line, 256, input) != NULL)
    {
        count += strrepl (line, line, oldstring, newstring);
        fputs (line, output);
    }
    fclose (input);
    fclose (output);
    for (z = 10000; z; z /= 10)
        if ((c = count / z) || p || (z == 1))
        {
            puts ((c + '0'), stderr);
            count -= c * z;
            ++p;
        }
    fputs (" strings replaced\\n", stderr);
}
/*
strrepl (dat, arc, pat, rep) copies "arc" to "dat",
replacing all non-overlapping instances of "pat" by "rep",
returning the number of replacements performed.
*/
strrepl (dat, arc, pat, rep)
char *dat, *arc, *pat, *rep;
{
    char x, *p, *t;
    int c = 0;

    while (*arc)
    {

```

```

for (p = pat, t = arc; (((x = *p++) == *t++) && x); );
if (x)
    *dat++ = *arc++;
else
    for (p = rep, arc = t - 1, ++c; *p; *dat++ = *p++);
}
*dat = '\0';
return (c);
}

```

Extend this program to optionally replace strings representing complete C variable names, rather than partial names. Thus, assuming an old-string of "xxx" and new-string of "yyy", it would change a variable named "xxx" but would not change variables named "zxxx" or "xxxxz" or "xxxxxxx", as the original program would.

EXAMPLE C PROGRAM

Following is this month's example C program; it provides an alternative version of the detab program of an earlier chapter. This version expands tabs, rather than replacing them with spaces. The number of columns between tabs may be specified. If it is specified as zero, the file is assumed to be a PLEX formatted file with tabs followed by codes representing compressed spaces. Standard input and output are used, to facilitate the use of the program as a filter or systems supporting pipes and redirection.

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

main(argc, argv)
int argc;
char *argv[];
{
    int col = 1, n = 8, c;
    char *ap;
    FILE *fd, *td;

    fd = stdin;
    td = stdout;
    if (argc > 1)
        n = atoi(argv[1]);
    if (n < 0)
        n = 1;

    while ((c = getc(fd)) != EOF)
    {
        switch (c)
        {
            case '\t':
                if (n)
                {
                    do
                    {
                        putchar (' ', td);
                        col++;
                    }
                    while ((col % n) != 0);
                }
                else
                {
                    if ((c = getc(fd)) == EOF)
                        exit(0);
                    for (; c; --c)
                    {
                        putchar (' ', td);
                        col++;
                    }
                }
                break;
            case '\n':
                putchar ('\n', td);
                col = 1;
                break;
            case '\0':
                break;
            case '\r':
                if (n == 0)
                {
                    putchar ('\n', td);
                    col = 1;
                    break;
                }
                break;
            default:
                putchar (c, td);
                col++;
        }
    }
    exit(0);
}

```

** All software mentioned is fresh in stock for immediate shipment by S.E. MEDIA, see their catalog - this issue.

UniFLEX

User Notes

Kenneth R. Lewis
Automation Engineering
1691 Shelby Oak Dr. N.
Suite 4
Memphis, TN 38134

Last month I began a multi-point discussion of UniFLEX Operating System and various tools, techniques and endeavors. This month, I would like to spend some time on a few of the tools. In particular, "FLEX for UniFLEX" and "tacc" (the newly released "C" compiler from Technical Systems Consultants).

FLEX for UniFLEX is exactly what its name implies. Most FLEX-hosted software will run in this new environment with no restrictions. The rules are simple...if it uses standard entry points, it will most likely work! Because UniFLEX manages the hardware environment for the user, direct access to ACIA's, PIA's and the like will NOT work! Never the less, having access to the rich set of FLEX utilities and languages, while allowing full use of UniFLEX's facilities is more power than most other systems can ever hope for.

Before anyone gets upset, let me say that I don't claim UniFLEX will replace FLEX or even attempt to. UniFLEX does, however, offer far more in terms of user/productivity enhancement. Most projects, are easier to accomplish in the UniFLEX environment and of course, more people can participate through the same hardware. Use of a common development tool, simultaneously, has distinct advantages over the old "wait your turn" approach! But enough of that, let me tell you about "FLEX for UniFLEX."

FLEX for UniFLEX comes as a standard 8-inch disk with manual and an additional utility-set. These utilities represent an extension to normal FLEX in that they allow user access to the UniFLEX facility that is "hosting" FLEX. As delivered, FLEX for UniFLEX allows up to four "drives" to be attached. The four drives are NOT restricted, though, in that they may be intermixed between floppies and hard-disk drives called "file-diaks." A "file-diak" is a specially formatted UniFLEX file that looks like a regular FLEX disk to the hosted system. An advantage here is that any (or all) of the "drives" may reside on one (or more) of the UniFLEX drives and of course, Winchester drives are included! Imagine having forty (40) megabytes of disk space divided between your old favorites (from years of work with FLEX) and your newest ventures (developed under UniFLEX).....

I have been using FLEX for UniFLEX for about a year now and have found it to be invaluable as an aid for "transferring" previous development efforts to my new environment. Additionally, I use some of the old standby tools (found only in the FLEX environment) to toy with new ideas or old problems. Once an idea gets, or problem is solved, I move it to UniFLEX through one of the new utilities provided, and continue from there. This article, and many more to follow, are an example of "reversing" the procedure. I write the text (using TSC's newly released "UniFLEX Screen Editor"), check the spelling with Stylo System's "Spelling Checker", text process it with TSC's "pr" and spool it to the printer using the UniFLEX "Enhanced Spooler" package. Once acceptable, I transfer it to a FLEX disk via FLEX for UniFLEX using the "copyuf" utility provided. Larry Williams then transfers the article to a system at "68" micro-journal. Although small, this is just the kind of "convenience" that FLEX for UniFLEX brings to my world.

Another such convenience is TSC's new "tacc" compiler. This new compiler represents a full implementation of Kernighan and Ritchie's "C" language and is NOT lacking in any way for full compliance with "C" for UNIX, System V, Release 1. The compiler is currently available for all standard 68000 family products supported by TSC and for a few custom products. The 68020 version supports Motorola's MC68881 Floating Point Coprocessor by generating "math" instructions directly in-line with the code. Since the MC68020 handles such code as an "exception", there is very little overhead and complex functions are handled directly by the math coprocessor. The new CIMIX 68020 system (advertised in this magazine) utilizes the combination described above and according to an "insider" at TSC, is "...the fastest machine they've ever seen."

The TSC "C" compiler sports a standalone pre-processor (more for the 6809 version than others), a two-pass compiler section, two-pass relocating assembler, an optimizer and a linkage editor. Code can be generated and run with a command as simple as "tacc mycode.c" ! Multiple source files are allowed. Input can be in "C", "assembler", or "relocatable object" format. Conditional compilation is fully supported as well as features that allow for easy generation of libraries. Complex development processes are made simpler through a facility that allows for "selective" re-compilation and linking of modules. Finally, all source code labels are appended to the binary file so that TSC's symbolic debugging tool, "qdb" can show you where you went wrong! A "strip" utility is provided for removing the symbols later.

I've used the "tacc" compiler for six (6) months now and only found one boo-boo in the "macro expansion" feature. This was fixed immediately by TSC and a new copy arrived the next morning! In terms of performance...we here at Automation Engineering have found it to be quite efficient and generates rather compact code. Early on, we discovered that the effort expended trying to find a "sloppy" section of compiler generated code was NOT worth the meager gain in speed or code space. Nowadays, we just crank out code, meet deadlines and smile.....

A "Real World UniFLEX Project"

Speaking of deadlines....a recent project (using the 68010) was made possible and profitable by utilizing "UniFLEX VM" for the 68010 and Versa-Module European (VME) hardware. The combination really shines in the Industrial Control arena. We were asked to develop a system that would sort products packed into six (6) different types of boxes, queue them up (based on boxes per pallet) and route them to another system for palletizing. Each box entered the conveyor system from two (2) feed conveyors. A pneumatic "stop" released the waiting box and allowed it to pass a "LASER" scanning device so that a "barcoded" label could be read by our system (RS-232, 9600 baud, Async., record format w/checksum + acknowledge). Once scanned, the data gathered was "piped" to a data-base program for look-up and verification. The data-base then "piped" a response to the "logic" program (the task that actually managed the conveyor system) and allowed the box to proceed down the conveyor to a "transfer point." Since there were six (6) such transfer points, the boxes were "tracked" by monitoring transitions of photo-eyes placed along the route. At the proper point for a particular box, a

transfer mechanism was activated and the box moved from "main" conveyor to queue. When a queue was filled, and the way clear, all boxes in the queue were released to an "outfeed" conveyor where they arrived (shortly) at a "palletizing" machine. Our system managed all conveyor motors, box "stops" (solenoid actuated, pneumatic), a LASER Scanner, an Operator Keypad (9600 baud), a System Console (ANSI CRT w/Keyboard) and most demanding of all, a bank of five (5) "aerial ASCII remote digital interface modules" (used to read all field limit-switches and photocells as well as drive the motors and solenoids).

With all of the above, boxes moving through the system, I/O points being scanned and such. The system was only running at a fraction of its capacity and all under UNIFLEX !!!

Next Month

Next month I will describe another system that is managed by UNIFLEX and runs a ROBOT Package Handler...we call it the "One-Armed Octopus"!! Also, I will be describing some wild COLOR Graphics packages that are available for some of the standard VME hardware that runs UNIFLEX.

ADA^R And The 68000

Theodore F. Elbert
The University of West Florida
Pensacola, Florida 32514

Part 8 Concurrent Processing and Ada's Tasks.

Two of the usual requirements of embedded computer systems are real-time processing and concurrency. These two concepts are related, with real-time requirements often being met by use of concurrent processing, or parallelism. In general, the term concurrent processing refers to those situations in which the execution of more than one sequential thread of code takes place in parallel--or at least it has the appearance of occurring in parallel. The term concurrent programming refers to the tools and techniques for dealing with concurrent processing. Concurrent programming is typical in the development of operating system and real-time system software, and it often distinguishes these kinds of systems from other software systems.

In general, concurrent processing is obtained in one of three ways:

- multicomputing--in which different processes execute on totally different computers, but with detailed communication requirements,
- multiprocessing--in which different processes execute on different processors within the same computer, possibly sharing the same memory and other resources,
- multiprogramming--in which different processes are executed in an interleaved manner on a single processor.

There is currently a trend towards abstract concurrency that is unrelated to the parallelism of the actual target computer. The data flow diagrams found in certain software engineering techniques can be envisioned as networks of concurrent processes, even though eventual implementation has traditionally been in a sequential language. The Ada language supports the concept of abstract concurrency by the inclusion of concurrent programming features as an integral part of the language, regardless of the actual parallelism present in the target environment. Each thread of code in an Ada program is considered to be executing on a single logical processor. A program containing only a

single thread of code--the main program, so to speak--executes on a single logical processor, even though the actual implementation may be obtained by multiprocessing or multicomputing. Ada programs executing more than one thread of code in parallel accomplish this concurrency by the use of the Ada task--one task for each additional thread of executing code. Each task also executes on a single logical processor, even though the actual implementation may be obtained through multicomputing,

multiprocessing, interleaving on a single processor, or any combination of these techniques. That is, the language and its run-time support environment completely isolate the programmer from the implementation in such a way that the concurrent programming can be developed as though each Ada task were to execute on its own processor. A very specific set of rules determine the task dependencies and the interactions and communications among tasks.

In general, embedded system software applications fall into one of three categories:

- Synchronous or purely cyclic: All tasks performed by the software are, by definition, periodic and execute in a synchronous, sequential pattern according to a fixed schedule. Some very simple control systems fit into this category.
- Mostly cyclic, with some asynchronous events: Most tasks are cyclic in nature and can be scheduled deterministically, but some asynchronous events and burst computing loads must be handled without interfering with the cyclic processing. Many modern weapon control, flight control, and navigation systems fit into this category.
- Asynchronous: Most tasks are asynchronous rather than cyclic in nature. These systems depend almost exclusively on asynchronous, interrupt driven processing. Stimuli arrive at unpredictable times, and software responses must be delivered within rigid time constraints even under peak load conditions. These kinds of systems are said to be event-driven. Command, control, communications, and intelligence systems (C³I) fall into this category.

The means of achieving the proper scheduling of tasks in embedded computer systems has typically been provided in one of two ways:

- By use of a user written supervisor program implemented in assembly code. This program would normally respond to timed interrupts in order to provide the scheduling process. Context switching--the saving and restoring of processor states--must be provided by this program.

- By use of a real-time operating system kernel or real-time executive. The program must then make operating system calls to access task control, memory management, and interrupt handling facilities of the operating system. Operating system services such as semaphores, mailboxes, and queues are used for synchronization of and communication among concurrently executing tasks. In essence, a real-time kernel provides a basis around which a special-purpose operating system is generated, with the concurrently executing tasks in the role of processes within the operating system.

The use of a real-time operating system to serve as an interface between the hardware and the applications program greatly simplifies the development of embedded system software. In addition, because the operating system itself normally has had wide use, the reliability of the resulting software is usually enhanced.

In the first category of embedded system software--for which asynchronous features dominate--the traditional approach to real-time operating systems has been the cyclic executive approach, in which a scheduler allocates to tasks certain time intervals in which to execute. Because different tasks often must execute at different cyclic rates, elaborate methods for allocating processor time must often be developed. The smallest time interval allocated by the scheduler is called a minor cycle. Multiples of the minor cycle--usually powers of two multiples--are called major cycles. The various tasks execute within these cycles, and each task is run to completion and has access to all global data. Asynchronous events, if present, are usually signaled by interrupts. The interrupt service must be provided quickly enough so that it does not interfere with the cyclic portion of the program. Often, the cyclic and asynchronous functions are run as foreground processes, with background processing--that is, processing using whatever processor time is not required by the foreground tasks--performing low-priority functions that are not time critical. A computer self-check program, for example, is often provided as a background task.

For the last two categories of embedded system software--in which asynchronous features either are present to a significant degree, or dominate the software requirements--the cyclic executive approach fails because of the complexity involved. Concurrent tasking is the best approach in this case, and the management of concurrent tasking is most easily obtained by the use of a real-time operating system.

Ada's approach to concurrent programming makes the concurrently executing task a basic program unit. The synchronization of and communications among tasks is provided within the language itself by a process called asynchronization by rendezvous. Ada programs, of course, cannot execute without a run-time support environment provided by the implementation. This run-time support environment may well be formed around the same real-time operating system kernel used to provide services to traditional real-time languages. In an Ada program, however, no operating system calls are required--all asynchronization of and communications among concurrently executing tasks are provided by features of the language itself. These high order language constructs may cause invocation of operating system calls by the run-time environment, but such action is transparent to the

programmer. By providing all task control facilities within the high order language, the portability of the resulting software is greatly enhanced.

The Ada task, together with the subprogram, the package and the generic unit, is one of the four primary program units of the language. Like subprograms and packages, tasks have a two-part form consisting of a specification and a body; both must be present. The specification part defines the interface of the task with other Ada program units, while the body contains the implementation of whatever action the task produces. Unlike the case with subprograms and packages, however, task specifications and task bodies may not be separately compiled, since they are not compilation units. They may be textually separated within a declarative part of a program unit, however, in order to provide desired flexibility. In addition, the specification and body may appear in the separately compiled specification and body, respectively, of a package, in which case the task is exported by the package.

While subprogram and package specifications declare the associated entities--that is, they declare subprograms and packages--a task specification declares a task type. Task objects can then be declared in a manner analogous to any other object declaration. The value of an object of a task type designates a task, so that many different tasks of the same task type may be declared.

The specification part of a task defines the interface between the task and other program units. This interface provides the synchronization and communication requirements of the rendezvous mechanism. A rendezvous is produced by the execution of an entry call statement in the calling program unit, coupled with the execution of a corresponding accept statement in the called task. The entry call and the accept statement are interfaced through an entry declaration in the specification part of the called task. An entry declaration may have a formal part that contains a list of formal parameters. Actual parameters in the entry call statement are associated with these formal parameters, thus providing the communications function of the rendezvous. The only kind of declaration permitted in a task specification is an entry declaration. This limitation implies that the only interaction between a task and any other program unit is that obtained through an entry call. That is, since there can be no subprograms or packages declared within the task specification, any subprogram or package declared within the task body are local to the task body and therefore cannot be accessed by any other program unit.

These concepts can best be illustrated by an example in which a task provides a buffer between two other program units. One of these program units--either the main program or another task--places a character into the buffer by a call to entry PUT, while another program unit retrieves the value by a call to entry TAKE. The task specification has the following form:

```
task BUFFER is
  entry PUT(ELEM : in CHARACTER);
  entry GET(ELEM : out CHARACTER);
end BUFFER;
```

-- This is a task object specification with two entries, PUT and GET. The formal part of each entry contains a single parameter. In the case of entry PUT, the parameter has mode in, so that the parameter value is passed to this task from the calling task. The mode out specified for the parameter in entry TAKE implies that the value is passed from this task to the calling task.

The corresponding task body is:

```
task body BUFFER is
  TEMP : CHARACTER;
```

```

begin
  loop
    accept PUT(ELEM : in CHARACTER) do
      TEMP := ELEM;
    end PUT;
    accept TAKE(ELEM : out CHARACTER) do
      ELEM := TEMP;
    end TAKE;
  end loop;
end BUFFER;
-- The task body consists of an endless loop
containing only the two accept statements
corresponding to the two entries PUT and
TAKE.

```

If more than one task object is needed, a task type can be declared by use of the reserved word type:

```

task type BUFFER is
  entry PUT(ELEM : in CHARACTER);
  entry TAKE(ELEM : out CHARACTER);
end BUFFER;
-- Here, a task type is declared. The body
remains unchanged, but one or more task
objects must be declared before any task
is designated.

```

The task object declarations, in their simplest form, might be:

```
BUFFER_1, BUFFER_2, BUFFER_3 : BUFFER;
```

in which case three task objects are declared. Each of these objects designates a separate task, and these tasks will execute concurrently. The task specification and task body are common to each of these tasks. For example, there are six entries now involved:

```

BUFFER_1.PUT   BUFFER_2.PUT   BUFFER_3.PUT
BUFFER_1.TAKE  BUFFER_2.TAKE  BUFFER_3.TAKE.

```

There are also the equivalents of three task bodies.

These particular tasks will execute concurrently with two other tasks. The first of these--the producer task--produces characters that are passed to task BUFFER through the rendezvous mechanism and the entry PUT. The second task--the consumer task--obtains characters from task BUFFER through the rendezvous mechanism and entry TAKE. The semantics of the buffering action is described in the following paragraph.

All three tasks--producer, consumer, and task BUFFER--begin execution simultaneously. Task BUFFER will execute to the first accept statement, at which time it will be suspended awaiting a rendezvous. Meanwhile, the producer and consumer tasks will be executing in parallel. The producer task will eventually execute an entry call statement of the form:

```
BUFFER.PUT(CHAR);
```

at which time the rendezvous will be initiated. The parameter CHAR will be passed to task BUFFER. Upon initiation of the rendezvous, the producer task will be suspended while the accept statement (which ends with end PUT) will be executed. Upon execution of the end PUT statement, the rendezvous is completed, and both the producer task and task BUFFER resume normal execution in parallel. Task BUFFER will execute to the next accept statement and await a rendezvous through entry TAKE. The consumer task will eventually execute an entry call statement of the form:

```
BUFFER.TAKE(CHAR);
```

at which time a second rendezvous will be initiated. The value that was passed to task BUFFER during the first rendezvous is now passed from task BUFFER to the consumer task. When this second rendezvous is completed, task BUFFER completes the loop, again executes the exempt PUT statement, and then awaits initiation of a rendezvous by the producer task. This

process continues, with task BUFFER alternating between rendezvous with the producer task and rendezvous with the consumer task.

This example illustrates the general concept of the rendezvous mechanism in an Ada program. The rendezvous provides for both synchronization of end communication between the two tasks involved in the rendezvous. A rendezvous is produced when one task--the calling task--issues an entry call, and the second task--the called task--accepts the call. An entry call is issued by the calling task through the execution of an entry call statement. Note that the entry call statement specifies the entry by name, and that it may include a parameter list by which information is exchanged with the called task. The entry name must be prefixed by the task name.

The called task accepts the entry call when an accept statement with the corresponding entry name is executed. The synchronization of the two tasks is achieved through the specific rules of the rendezvous, while the communication between the tasks, if any, is accomplished by the association of the actual parameters in the entry call statement with the formal parameters in the accept statement. The key point here is that the rendezvous is not effected until the calling task has executed the entry call statement, and the called task has executed a corresponding accept statement.

In a simple rendezvous, task synchronization is produced by the response of the calling task to the entry call statement, and by the response of the called task to the accept statement. These responses are as follows:

- When an executing task encounters an entry call statement, a check is made to determine if the called task is waiting at a corresponding accept statement--that is, an accept statement containing the name of the entry--in which case the rendezvous is effected. If the called task is not waiting at a corresponding accept statement, the execution of the calling task is suspended until a rendezvous can be effected.

- When an executing task encounters an accept statement, a check is made to determine if any task has executed an entry call statement naming the entry associated with the accept statement and is therefore awaiting rendezvous. If there is a calling task awaiting rendezvous, then the rendezvous is effected. If no calling task is awaiting rendezvous, then the execution of the task is suspended until a rendezvous can be effected.

Thus, a rendezvous occurs under one of two conditions:

- A calling task executes an entry call to a called task that is waiting at a corresponding accept statement.
- A called task executes an accept statement for which a calling task is waiting at a corresponding entry call statement.

The simultaneous arrival of the calling task at an entry call, and of the called task at a corresponding accept statement, can be viewed as either case above. Such a situation cannot occur when the underlying hardware has a single processor, of course, because the parallel execution of the two tasks is only apparent. Even in multiprocessor systems, such simultaneity is very unlikely. The point is that the two tasks are synchronized when the rendezvous is effected. This synchronization is achieved by one of the tasks having its execution suspended until the other is ready for rendezvous.

Basic OS-9

Ron Voigts

One of the earliest commands, if not the first, that you'll learn in OS-9 is **BACKUP**. One of the first things your user's manual tells you is to **BACKUP** your system disk. If you buy a piece of software, it will tell you to make a backup. My first column in the Color Micro Journal emphasized the importance of making backups. I think it only reasonable to devote a column to it.

BACKUP is a rather interesting and unique command. Not all systems have it (although many do). To copy a disk in another system, you might enter a line:

```
COPY A:* B:*
```

The "*" are wildcards that specify all files. The copy command copies from drive A to drive B everything. Eventually what is on drive A ends up on drive B. Many systems use something like this, but this is not an equivalent of **BACKUP**, since it is copying file by file.

What differs the OS-9 command, **BACKUP**, from the wildcard copy routine is that it doesn't concern itself with what is on the disk. The directories, files and modules on the OS-9 disk are totally invisible to **BACKUP**. When it operates, it makes a "bit image" of the original disk onto the target disk. Sector by sector, byte by byte the two disks are identical. They are mirror images of each other.

The simplest way to use it, is to enter:

```
OS9:BACKUP
```

This will cause a backup of /D0 to /D1. This is the default condition. If you enter:

```
OS9:BACKUP /D1
```

it will cause a single drive backup on drive /D1 by prompting to insert the source disk and destination disk, alternating until the disk is copied. Finally, you can try:

```
OS9:BACKUP /D0 /D1
```

and the disk in drive /D0 will be copied to /D1. A nice feature about backup is it gives 2 chances to make certain you are really going to do a backup. For the above command it would first ask:

```
Ready to BACKUP /D0 to /D1 ?:
```

This is your first chance. If you really meant to backup /D1 to /D0 or something else enter a N. Otherwise enter a Y and it will continue:

```
XYZ is being scratched  
OK ?:
```

XYZ is a dummy name I gave to the disk during formatting. I intended to backup another disk to it. If an important name had come up, instead of the XYZ, I would enter an N. Otherwise, a Y and the backup will start. Unlike copying files, **BACKUP** is impervious to files' attributes. You may change a files' attributes to protect it from being accidentally erased, but when you **BACKUP**, anything on the destination disk will be wiped out. So, you get 2 chances, before anything is erased. Another good reason for asking whether you want to **BACKUP /D0 to /D1**, it gives you time to put a source disk in drive /D0, should you want to backup a disk that doesn't have a commands directory on it. Just remember when it is all over to replace the disk in /D0 with the commands directory.

There are a few things that you can do to effect **BACKUP**. There three command modifiers you can use. They are:

```
e - exit on read error  
s - print single drive prompt  
~v - do not verify
```

The e causes **BACKUP** to abort on any read encountered on the source disk. If you don't use it, the backup will proceed with the errors only being noted to the screen. The s print a single drive prompt. If you specify only one drive in the **BACKUP** command list, the single drive prompt will be automatically be printed. So, entering:

```
BACKUP /D0
```

or

```
BACKUP S /D0 /D0
```

will do the same thing. The ~v will stop the verification routine on the destination disk, which is usually done at the end of backup. I recommend not using these options, unless you have a good reason. For example, use the ~v to save some time, just hope that the destination disk is ok. The other option is that you can adjust the amount of memory used. Normally, 4K of memory is dedicated to **BACKUP**. If you want more you can specify the number of pages or K bytes for it to use. Entering :

```
BACKUP #20K
```

will let it use 20K of memory. You can also use:

```
BACKUP #80
```

to get the same result. Giving it more memory will speed up the process and reduce the amount of switching between drives. If you are a single drive user, you'll especially want to give it more memory. If you don't you'll end up swapping disks maybe 40 times or so. Giving it about 40k will reduce the swapping to perhaps 4 or 5 times.

A CHANGE OF NAMES

There is one drawback, I have found, to **BACKUP**. Many times you'll want to backup a disk, like the system disk. Then you'll customize it to fit your needs. When finished you've got a disk that no longer is like the parent. The disk is now different, but the name is the same.

To solve the problem, I created **DNC**, which is short for **disk name change**. To use it you would enter:

```
dnc <device name>
```

The name can be any mass storage device, such as, /d0 or /d1. If you forget how to use it just enter doc without a device name and a little help list will be printed.

The program opens a path to your device. It goes to LSN 0, the Identification Sector, and reads its name. The old name is printed and a prompt for a new one. If you enter a name larger than 32 characters, it will prompt again for a new name. Just entering a carriage return will cause it to abort, leaving the old name intact. Two subprograms, I used, are **STOC** and **CTOS**. These convert a system string to a C string and a C string to system string, respectively. The difference is, in system strings, the last character has the 8th bit set high. In C strings, the end is marked by a null character (\$00). The other thing is the program worth noting is the use of the C file errno.h. It contains the error codes used by **exit()**. **E_BPNAM** is bad path name, **E_READ** is read error, and **E_WRITE** is write error.

If you use **BACKUP** to make disks that you customize, then you'll want to use a program like **dnc** to change the name to reflect the disks identity. Long after the labels has faded or the fallen off, the name will be there to remind you of its purpose. The name can be important.

That's all for now. Have a good month. See you next time.

```
/* DNC.C -- Disk Name Change */  
/* This program will rename a disk */  
/* by Ron Voigts August 1985 */
```

```
#define UPDATE 3  
#include <errno.h>  
#include <stdio.h>  
#include <ctype.h>
```

```
main(argc,argv)  
int argc;  
char *argv[];
```

```

int path, namesize;
char pname[30];
char oldname[33], newname[80];
if (argc == 1)
    help();
/* set up pathname for open */
strcpy(pname, argv[1]);
strncat(pname, "@", 1);

/* open and read dd sector */
if ((path=open(pname, UPDATE)) == -1)
    exit(E_BPNAM);
lseek(path, 311, 0);
if (read(path, oldname, 32) < 32)
    exit(E_READ);

/* change old disk name to c format */
stoc(oldname);

/* show old name and get new one */
printf("Old Name:%s\n", oldname);
namesize=33; /* any number larger than 32 */
while (namesize >32)
{
    printf("New Name:");
    gets(newname);
    namesize=strlen(newname);
}
if (strlen(newname) == 0)
{
    printf("No Change Made!");
    exit(0);
}

/* convert the new name to system format */
ctoa(newname);

/* write changed name back */
lseek(path, 311, 0);
if (write(path, newname, 32) < 32)
    exit(E_WRITE);
close(path);
}

atoc(s)
char *s;
{
    int i;
    i=0;
    while (isspace(s[i]))
        i++;
    s[i]=toascii(s[i]);
    s[i+1]='\0';
}

ctoa(s)
char *s;
{
    int i;
    i=0;
    while (s[i] != '\0')
        i++;
    s[i-1]=0x80;
}

help()
{
    printf("Dname <device name>\n");
    printf("  Old Name will be displayed.\n");
    printf("  New Name will be prompted.\n");
    printf("  A <cr> will abort change.\n");
    exit(0);
}

```

Using K-BASIC

Frank L. Nuttman
LLOYD I/O
19535 NE Gillan
Portland, OR 97230
USA
(503) 666-1097
Telex: 910 380 5448 LLOYD I O

In this episode of the Bit Slicer, we'll examine the use of K-BASIC. For those of you who don't know what K-BASIC is, K-BASIC is a native code BASIC language compiler for FLEX and OS9 systems using the 6809 as the host CPU. As the author of K-BASIC it was felt that I could explain things best. Don Williams has asked me to cover parts of K-BASIC, as space and time permits, over the coming months.

VERSION HISTORY

First of all I want to give a list of the various version that have been released. Over a period of time several versions have been released and to help users identify which version they have and if they need to update their disks, I provide the following list. This list is a reconstruction and may not be totally accurate.

March 1982 - work begins
July 1983 - demonstrated preliminary version at MCC 83
August 1984 - demonstrated preliminary version at Des Moines.
October 1984 - released first versions single pass, OSM assembler no random files no PRINT USING compiled small programs.

January 1985 - double pass, PRINT USING random files, still compiles small programs still uses OSM assembler.
March 1985 - KO assembler replaces OSM assembler, spaces now allowed in expressions, compiles much larger programs, however FLEX version has bug in assembler preventing object code from executing, won't multiply 2% and other side effects.
March 1985 - KO assembler bug fixed.
May 1985 - New memory manager added; results in much faster string handling and assignment.
June 1985 - used to develop an integrated accounting system for OS9 level 2 here at LLOYD I/O, beginning work to add single and double precision binary math packages.

This appears to be extremely slow, but if you consider just what is happening it isn't so bad. K-BASIC is NOT an interpreter. Get your program running in BASIC first. Don't use it like one. The best way to work with it is to be very methodical about coding up your applications. A lot of trial and error will consume many hours of your time. If you are using K-BASIC under FLEX, take advantage of the availability of the TSC XBASIC interpreter and try out your algorithms.

OS9 users have a problem. XBASIC won't run under OS9. For level two users I am developing a version of the run-time package that is already assembled and is treated as a 6809 subroutine memory module with a table of vectors for the 150 or so subroutines. This should speed up development and reduce the amount of memory used by several different compiled programs. There is no sense in having two copies of the (SLM) functions... etc. Also only one copy of the run-time package will be in memory.

AUTOMATION

I have a theory. If I automate most of the operations here at LLOYD I/O, time will be saved that can be used in software development. Well, it is taking time to implement the system. But, progress is being made. I'm using K-BASIC to develop an accounting-invoice system. One of the benefits is faster order processing. I have three printers set up for the various forms. An Okidata 82A prints the 7 inch invoices, an Epson MX-80 prints the mailing label, and another Epson MX-80 prints the serial number stickers. The serial number stickers have eight items of interest:

1. Program name with trademark notice
2. Version number
3. Disk Operating System, and size
4. Date of manufacture
5. Serial number
6. Product number
7. Customer account number
8. Invoice number

My system is set up to allow me to cross reference the serial numbers and invoice numbers to the customer account number. This allows me to process updates easily as long as the sticker is available.

Serial number stickers are placed in the manual, on the disks, and on the customer support registration form. ** SEE NOTE BELOW: (It is our policy to process updates only if the registration form is in our files.) The current form is in the format of a survey. I'll be evaluating these as soon as I have enough to make an accurate poll feasible. On the back of this survey is an area for comments. I always read these comments, looking for suggestions and bug reports. In the future I'll be commenting on these suggestions.

NOTE: For those customers of S. E. MEDIA (CPI) and their dealers, this data is maintained by S.E. MEDIA at their Hixson, Tennessee offices.

Josef Salbaba

Microcomputer Solutions

PO BOX 4
GUMHOLESDALE, IOWA
51151
AUSTRIA / ILLINOIS
(618) 231-6203

PO BOX 4952
HOLLYWOOD
FLORIDA 33081
USA

South East Media
Mr. Chris Kocher
5900 Cassandra Smith Rd.
Hixson, TN 37343, USA

Austria, 22-Aug-1985

Dear Mr. Kocher:

Thank you for sending back the updated floppies with Kbasic. We are glad to tell you, that this version works fine, as far as we were able to test compilations. At about the same date we received a letter from Frank Hoffman offering to exchange diskettes for update. While you already did the update, we are still missing an update of the manual. F.H. mentioned there exists new manual; he did not send, nor promise to send it. We consider the delivery of the manual is supposed to be part of the original delivery and herewith we like to request it from your company.

Generally, Kbasic seems to be in good shape, only we have some complaints concerning compilation time efforts. Kbasic needs about 20 minutes to work out a 25-line basic program. Almost of the time seems to be used up in the assembly with "Ko". We are using a PT-69 (1MHz 6809 cycle) with 2 disk drives. Maybe we are doing something wrong? F.H. will probably have to spend some work on this fact. We are very interested to follow the future development of this product and will sign on with the update fee as soon as we have gained some more experience and the delivery were completed with the manual.

Editor's Note: Josef, by the time you read this your manual update should have arrived by air-mail. There were several updates, changes, modifications and improvements over the first 6 months of this year, to K-BASIC. However, it now has stabilized and seems to be ahead of most other software in "clean-up" time.

You cannot imagine the effort that was expended to make K-BASIC a reasonably "bug free" product in such a short period of time. Your kind remarks as to it's present state of efficiency is appreciated by those engaged in the project.

As to the time it takes to compile. First, actually it takes very little time to compile. For a 50 line XBASIC program the time to compile was less than one minute on a 2 Mhz 6809 FLEX system. The assembly time was longer, 7.35 minutes. The total time from start to a .CMD object file was 8.25 minutes. The resulting object code used about 23 FLEX sectors. The resulting code is fairly efficient. But even 23 total sectors is far less RAM space required than having both XBASIC and the source in memory for normal operation. Considering that XBASIC itself uses 79 sectors, plus your source code. Much better a 23 sector object program - much faster and uses far less RAM. Actually the difference can be "go or no go!"

For a 100 line program, using the same type variables, the total time was only about 3 minutes total time longer, or 11.14 minutes from start to .CMD object code. The time is consumed mostly in the assembly process. K-BASIC is a "virtual memory type" of compiler. That is it uses disk space rather than available RAM space (RAM is very limited). Therefore, you can compile object files restricted only by disk space. Quite a better deal than compilers that run out of available memory.

The trade off is time, which is not too important if you have done your code right (get no errors and the program does what it was designed to do) and the size of your source file. For FLEX users most of the code can be pre-checked in the TSC XBASIC mode, then compiled. For OS9 users it is somewhat more demanding, as there is no BASIC similar to XBASIC running under OS9 at the present. We are working on one and will announce it as soon as we get it market ready. (fingers crossed!)

The other factors that affect compile and assembly time is the type of disk I/O (DMA or serial I/O), the actual type of disk and it's access and read/write speeds. The disk format (interleaving, etc.). System clock speeds, wait states, etc. And of course the disk operating system. All these factors leave a wide swath of value differences. Hence it is difficult to pin down exact compile/assemble times. For some it is much better than for others. But for all, it is certainly much more efficient than BASIC+source. **AND WHERE CAN YOU GET 100, YES, 100 DIGITS OF PRECISION?**

I would be interested in knowing how many of you readers would buy a UnifLEX version of K-BASIC, to compile UnifLEX BASIC? We are looking at it quite seriously, but need some sort of input. Also what about a 68XXX version? PLEASE drop me a line and let me know!

Also please refer to the "Using K-BASIC", this issue, by Frank Hoffman, the author and inventor of K-BASIC.

DWH

MICROBOX II

William A Brooker
36 Yingally drive
Arana Hills
BRISBANE 4054
QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

I would like share my experiences on the successful construction of a single board computer running the FLEX operating system.

I have been using a 6809 computer at work. It's used as a development system to write and debug programs to download to single board controllers. It has performed well and I have enjoyed using the FLEX operating system.

I decided I would like a FLEX based system at home to do some study on high level languages such as PL9 etc. Because of the cost I decided against a S550 based system at home.

I started looking at the advertisements for single board computer kits. This would be something I could build up gradually and not break the bank.

After looking in various magazines I found a single board FLEX system which I considered to be the best value for money and having the most innovative features. This was the ** MICROBOX II from MICRO CONCEPTS 8 Skillicorne Mews, Queens Road, Cheltenham, GL50 2NJ, UK.

The MICROBOX II is based on a MC6809E microprocessor running at 2Mhz. It is equipped with 64K of ram plus another 128K of ram which can be assigned as graphics memory or as a ram disk. It supports two 5.25 D5DD 40 or 80 track disk drives, an eeprom disk of 64K as well as the previously mentioned ram disk.

The eeprom disk is a small daughter board with four 27128's mounted on it. The utilities disk provided the software to burn the eeprom's on board.

The i/o comprises two RS-232 ports, a centronics printer port and an expansion buss. It has a battery backed up real time clock and also has great graphics potential which MICRO CONCEPTS demonstrate on the utilities disk. The MICROBOX II uses the NEC7220 graphics chip for the video generation. There is provision for three modes of displayed text (1) 108*24 chars. (2) 128*72 chars. (3) 84*24 chars. (The 128*72 mode needs a good monitor to do it justice.)

I decided to get the startup kit comprising a double sided p.c board 12" * 9.5", an eeprom board, a monitor rom and a utilities disk.

I posted away my overseas bank draft and hoped for the best. In just twelve days I received a note from our Customs Dept. indicating that they were holding a parcel for me. After sorting out the red tape and paying the duty (2%) and sales tax (20%) I was allowed to take the kit home.

The kit was complete and included a stack of documentation and construction notes including an English supplier list for all the parts needed to complete the computer.

Now came the interesting part of tracking down the suppliers of the parts in Australia. (Rather than base their design on a particular family of integrated circuits, MICROCEPTS seem to have selected chips to give the most efficient solution to the function required.) After many phone calls I located all of the parts needed, at the time (early 1985) the NEC7220 and WD1770 disk controller chip were only just being imported into Australia.

I installed all of the ic's into sockets and fitted all the connectors, etc. I had previously decided to mount the board in an Apple lookalike case. I cut the rear section out of the case and fitted an aluminum panel into which I fitted all the i/o connectors. I also made the eeprom disk accessible through this panel. An Apple type power supply was used to power the computer.

To test the computer I adapted the Apple keyboard connector to suit the MICROBOX II. The next major expense was a pair of 40 track D5DD disk drives which I mounted into a separate case with a power supply.

After much checking I applied power and was pleasantly surprised to see the MON09 prompt. I borrowed a FLEX disk from work and tried to boot up FLEX. Up came the +++ (magic), full of confidence I tried CAT, up came a catalog of the disk. How about EDIT----- nothing, the cursor disappeared.

Off went a letter to the U.K., back in twelve days was a letter suggesting I should be using TSC FLEX and not SWTPc FLEX. After obtaining TSC FLEX all was well, everything worked perfectly including programs like PL9 and atylograph, well almost, have you tried to find curly brackets on an Apple keyboard.

I replaced the Apple keyboard with a real full ASCII keyboard which completed the construction of the computer. The construction of the kit was a great learning process and I was pleased with the support provided by MICRO CONCEPTS in promptly answering all of my questions.

I believe that the single board computer kits offer enthusiasts with an economical entry into computers based on the FLEX operating system as well as giving the constructor more satisfaction and experience than they would receive by buying a ready made computer.

Hopefully their availability will increase the numbers of FLEX users and give the software writers more incentive to write programs for the 6809.

** Note: a more recent and current address is:

MICRO CONCEPTS
2 St. Stephens Road
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
GL51 5AA ENGLAND
Tele: (0242) 510525

ISAM

"ISAM"
INDEXED SEQUENTIAL ACCESS METHOD
A File Implementation
for
FLEX9 Operating Systems

By: Joseph D. Condon 8101 Alpine Drive Des Moines, Iowa
50322 515 278-4581

Continued from p.35 of last month.

```

*****
*                                     *
*                               ISAM ADD ROUTINE                               *
*                                     *
*****

```

```

ADD   TST      DFLAG,U   TEST OPEN FLAG
      LBEO     ERR155   FILE NOT OPEN
      TST      CFLAG,U   TEST CORRUPT FLAG
      LBNE     ERR150   CORRUPT FILE
      LOD      AFSIZE,U  GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      CMPD    MFSIZE,U  COMPARE TO MAX SIZE
      LBHS     ERR100   FILE FULL

      LBSR    MOVA01    MOVE VARIABLE TO BUFFER 1
      LOD     RECSIZ,U  GET RECORD SIZE
      STD     -2,S     STORE CHAR COUNT
      LEAX    BUFFER,PCR POINT TO BUFFER

ADD1  TST      0,X+     TEST BUFFER CHAR
      BNE     ADD2     NOT NULL RECORD
      LOD     -2,S     GET CHAR COUNT
      SUBD   #1        DECREMENT CHAR COUNT
      STD     -2,S     STORE CHAR COUNT
      BNE     ADD1     TEST NEXT BUFFER CHAR
      LBRA   ERR175   NULL RECORD

ADD2  LOD      AFSIZE,U  GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      ADDD   #1         GET RELATIVE RECORD NUMBER
      LBSR  WRREC     WRITE RELATIVE RECORD
      LBNE  EXIT     EXIT WITH ERROR

      LBSR  FIND     FIND LAST RECORD < KEY
      LBNE  EXIT     EXIT WITH ERROR
      LOD   CURREC,U GET CURRENT RECORD NUMBER
      ADD  #1        BUMP RECORD NUMBER
      STD  CURREC,U SET NEW CURRENT RECORD NO

      LOD  AFSIZE,U GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      ADDD #1        BUMP ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      STD  AFSIZE,U STORE ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      SUBD #1        DECREMENT RECORD NUMBER
      LSLB ROLA     MULTIPLY RECORD NO BY 2
      LEAX KEYTAB,U GET KEY TABLE LOCATION
      STX  -2,S     STORE KEY TABLE LOCATION
      ADD  -2,S     ADD LOCATION TO 0 REG
      TFR  0,X     MOVE D REG TO X REG
      LOD  0,X     GET PHYSICAL RECORD NUMBER

      STD  -2,S     SAVE PHYSICAL RECORD NO
      LOD  AFSIZE,U GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      SUBD CURREC,U CALCULATE DIFFERENCE
      STD  -4,S     STORE DIFFERENCE

ADD3  LOD      -4,S     GET DIFFERENCE
      BEQ     ADD4     END RECORD INSERT
      SUBD   #1        DECREMENT DIFFERENCE
      STD     -4,S     STORE DIFFERENCE
      LOD     0,--X    GET RECORD POINTER
      STD     2,X     MOVE PNTR TO NEXT LOCATION
      BRA     ADD3     MOVE TO NEXT LOCATION

ADD4  LOD      -2,S     GET NEW RECORD POINTER
      STD     0,X     INSERT NEW POINTER
      LBSR  SETUF    SET UPDATE FLAG
      LBNE  EXIT     EXIT WITH ERROR
      LOD   #0       GET STATUS CODE
      RTS

*****

```

```

*****
*                                     *
*                               ISAM DELETE ROUTINE                               *
*                                     *
*****

```

```

DELETE TST      DFLAG,U   TEST OPEN FLAG
      LBEO     ERR155   FILE NOT OPEN
      TST      CFLAG,U   TEST CORRUPT FLAG
      LBNE     ERR150   CORRUPT FILE
      LOD      CURREC,U  GET CURRENT RECORD NUMBER
      LBEO     ERR165   START OF FILE
      CMPD    AFSIZE,U  COMPARE TO ACTUAL SIZE
      LBHI     ERR170   END OF FILE
      LOD     RECSIZ,U  GET RECORD SIZE
      LEAY    BUFFER,PCR POINT TO RECORD BUFFER

DEL1  CLR      0,Y+     CLEAR RECORD CHARACTER
      SUBD   #1        DECREMENT RECORD SIZE COUNT
      BNE     DEL1     CLEAR NEXT CHARACTER

      LOD     CURREC,U  GET CURRENT RECORD NUMBER
      LBSR  WRREC     WRITE RELATIVE RECORD
      LBNE  EXIT     EXIT WITH ERROR

      LOD     CURREC,U  GET CURRENT RECORD NUMBER
      SUBD   #1        DECREMENT RECORD NUMBER
      LSLB  ROLA     MULTIPLY RECORD NO BY 2
      LEAX  KEYTAB,U  GET KEY TABLE LOCATION
      STX  -2,S     STORE BUFFER LOCATION
      ADD  -2,S     ADD LOCATION TO 0 REG

      TFR  0,X     MOVE D REG TO X REG
      LOD  0,X     GET PHYSICAL RECORD NUMBER
      STD  -2,S     SAVE PHYSICAL RECORD NO
      LOD  AFSIZE,U GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      SUBD CURREC,U SUBT CT CURRENT RECORD NO
      STD  -4,S     STORE DIFFERENCE

DEL2  LOD      -4,S     GET DIFFERENCE
      BEQ     DEL3     END RECORD INSERT
      SUBD   #1        DECREMENT DIFFERENCE
      STD     -4,S     STORE DIFFERENCE
      LOD     2,X     GET RECORD POINTER
      STD     0,X+*   MOVE PNTR TO NEXT LOCATION
      BRA     DEL2     MOVE TO NEXT LOCATION

DEL3  LOD      -2,S     GET NEW RECORD POINTER
      STD     0,X     INSERT NEW POINTER
      LOD  AFSIZE,U GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      SUBD #1        DECREMENT ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      STD  AFSIZE,U STORE ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      CMPD CURREC,U COMPARE TO CURRENT RECORD
      BHS  DEL4     FINISH DELETE
      ADD  #1        ADD 1 TO ACTUAL FILE SIZE
      STD  CURREC,U SET NEW CURRENT RECORD NO

DEL4  LBSR  SETUF    SET UPDATE FLAG
      LBNE  EXIT     EXIT WITH ERROR
      LOD   #0       GET STATUS CODE
      RTS

*****
*                                     *
*                               ISAM REORGANIZE ROUTINE                               *
*                                     *
*****

```

```

REORG  TST      DFLAG,U   TEST OPEN FLAG
      LBEO     ERR155   FILE NOT OPEN
      LOD     #0       CLEAR D REGISTER
      STD     AFSIZE,U SET ACTUAL FILE SIZE 0
      STD     RECCT,PCR SET RECORD COUNTER
      LEAY   KEYTAB,U  POINT TO KEY TABLE

REORG1 STD      0,Y+*   STORE KEY VALUE
      ADDD   #1        BUMP KEY VALUE
      CMPD  MFSIZE,U  COMPARE TO MAX FILE SIZE
      BNE   REORG1   STORE NEXT KEY VALUE

REORG2 LOD     RECCT,PCR GET RECORD COUNTER
      CMPD  MFSIZE,U  COMPARE TO MAX FILE SIZE
      BNE   REORG3   INSERT NEXT KEY
      CLR   CFLAG,U  CLEAR CORRUPT FLAG

```

LDD	#0	POINT TO START OF FILE	GETFID	LEAX	IFCB,U	POINT TO ISAM FCB
STD	CURREC,U	SET CURRENT RECORD NUMBER		LOY	CIFANT,PCR	POINT TO CALLER FCB
LBSR	SETUP	SET UPDATE FLAG		LEAY	B,Y	POINT CALLER FILE SPEC LOC
LBNE	EXIT	EXIT WITH ERROR		LDD	2,Y	GET FILE SPEC LENGTH
LDD	#0	GET STATUS CODE		LOY	0,Y	POINT TO FILE SPEC
RTS		RETURN				
REORG3	ADD	#1 BUMP RECORD COUNTER		TSTA		TEST FOR LENGTH < 256
STD	RECONT,PCR	STORE RECORD COUNTER		LBNE	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
LDD	AFSIZE,U	GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE		LEAX	3,X	POINT TO FCB DRIVE FIELD
ADD	#1	BUMP RELATIVE RECORD NO		LDA	WDRUND	GET WORKING DRIVE NUMBER
LBSR	RRREC	READ RELATIVE RECORD		STA	0,X*	SET FCB DRIVE DEFAULT
LBNE	EXIT	EXIT WITH ERROR		LDA	#8	GET NAME FIELD LENGTH
LEAX	BUFFER,PCR	POINT TO RECORD SUFFER 1	GF1	CLR	0,X*	CLEAR NAME AND EXTENSION
TFR	X,D	MOVE X REG TO D REG		DECA		DECREMENT CHAR COUNT
ADD	INPAR2,PCR	ADD MAX RECORD SIZE		BNE	GF1	CLEAR NEXT CHAR
TFR	D,Y	POINT TO RECORD BUFFER 2		LDA	#1	GET ISA CHARACTER
LDD	RECSIZ,U	GET MAX RECORD SIZE		STA	0,X*	STORE EXTENSION CHAR
STD	-2,S	STORE TEMPORARY		LDA	#5	GET ISA CHARACTER
CLR	-3,S	CLEAR TEMPORARY		STA	0,X*	STORE EXTENSION CHAR
				LDA	#A	GET ISA CHARACTER
REORG4	LDA	B,Y* GET RECORD 2 CHAR		BTA	0,X*	STORE EXTENSION CHAR
STA	B,X*	STORE RECORD 1 CHAR		LEAX	IFCB,U	POINT TO ISAM FCB
ORA	-3,S	OR CHAR WITH TEMPORARY		LEAX	3,X	POINT TO DRIVE NO FIELD
STA	-3,S	STORE TEMPORARY		LDA	#B	GET NAME FIELD LENGTH
LDD	-2,S	GET CHAR COUNT		STA	COUNT,PCR	SET CHAR COUNT
SUBD	#1	DECREMENT CHAR COUNT	GF2	TSTB		CHECK FOR END OF STRING
STD	-2,S	STORE CHAR COUNT		LBEO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
BNE	REORG4	MOVE NEXT BUFFER CHAR		DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT
TST	-3,S	TEST TEMPORARY		LDA	0,Y*	GET STRING CHARACTER
BNE	REORG7	INSERT RECORD POINTER		CMPA	#SPACE	TEST FOR LEADING SPACES
LDD	AFSIZE,U	GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE		BEQ	GF2	GET NEXT STRING CHAR
LSLB		MULTIPLY BY TWO		CMPA	#3	CHECK FOR DRIVE NO
ROLA				BHJ	GF3	GET FILE NAME
LEAX	KEYTAB,U	POINT TO KEY TABLE		CMPA	#0	CHECK FOR VALID DRIVE NO
STX	-2,S	STORE TEMPORARY		LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
ADD	-2,S	ADD KEY TABLE LOCATION		SUBA	#30	CONVERT TO BINARY
TFR	D,X	MOVE D REG TO X REG		STA	0,X	SET FCB DRIVE NO
LDD	0,X	GET CURENT RECORD POINTER		TSTB		TEST FOR END OF STRING
STD	-2,S	STORE TEMPORARY		LBEO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
LDD	MFSIZE,U	GET MAX FILE SIZE		LDA	0,Y*	GET NEXT STRING CHAR
SUBD	AFSIZE,U	SUBTRACT ACTUAL FILE SIZE		CMPA	#.	TEST FOR SEPARATOR
SUBD	#1	ADJUST DIFFERENCE		LBNE	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
STD	-4,S	STORE TEMPORARY		DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT
REORG5	LDD	-4,S GET DIFFERENCE		LBEO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
BEQ	REORG6	END POINTER SHIFT		LDA	0,Y*	GET NEXT STRING CHAR
SUBD	#1	DECREMENT DIFFERENCE		DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT
STD	-4,S	STORE TEMPORARY	GF3	LEAX	1,X	POINT TO FCB NAME FIELD
LDD	2,X	GET RECORD POINTER		CMPA	#A	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
STD	0,X**	SHIFT POINTER DOWN		LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
BRA	REORG5	SHIFT NEXT POINTER		CMPA	#2	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
				LBHI	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
REORG6	LDD	-2,S GET OLD CURRENT POINTER		STA	0,X*	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD
STD	0,X	STORE IN KEY TABLE	GF4	TSTB		TEST FOR END OF STRING
LBRA	REORG2	INSERT NEXT RECORD		LBEO	OF11	EXIT GETFID
				DEC	COUNT,PCR	DECREMENT FIELD COUNTER
REORG7	LBSR	FIND FIND KEY RECORD		BEQ	GF5	END OF FIELD ENCOUNTERED
LBNE	EXIT	EXIT WITH ERROR		LDA	0,Y*	GET NEXT STRING CHAR
LDD	CURREC,U	GET CURRENT RECORD NUMBER		DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT
ADD	#1	BUMP CURRENT RECORD NUMBER		CMPA	#.	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
STD	CURREC,U	STORE CURRENT RECORD NO		BEQ	GF6	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD
LDD	AFSIZE,U	GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE		CMPA	#-	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
ADD	#1	BUMP ACTUAL FILE SIZE		BEQ	OF4	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD
STD	AFSIZE,U	STORE ACTUAL FILE SIZE		CMPA	#-	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
SUBD	#1	DECREMENT ACTUAL FILE SIZE		BEQ	GF4	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD
LSLB		MULTIPLY BY TWO		CMPA	#0	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
ROLA				LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
LEAX	KEYTAB,U	POINT TO KEY TABLE		CMPA	#9	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
STX	-2,S	STORE TEMPORARY		BLE	GF4	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD
ADD	-2,S	ADD KEY TABLE LOCATION		CMPA	#A	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
TFR	D,X	MOVE D REG TO X REG		LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
LDD	0,X	GET CURRENT RECORD POINTER		CMPA	#2	TEST FOR VALID CHAR
STD	-2,S	STORE TEMPORARY		LBHI	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
LDD	AFSIZE,U	GET ACTUAL FILE SIZE		BRA	OF4	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD
SUBD	CURREC,U	SUBTRACT CURRENT RECORD NO	GF5	LDA	0,Y*	GET NEXT STRING CHAR
STD	-4,S	STORE TEMPORARY		DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT
REORG8	LDD	-4,S GET POINTER COUNT		CMPA	#.	TEST FOR SEPARATOR
BEQ	REORG9	END POINTER MOVE		LBNE	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
SUBD	#1	DECREMENT POINTER COUNT	GF4	TSTB		TEST FOR END OF STRING
STD	-4,S	STORE POINTER COUNT		LBEO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC
LDD	0,--X	GET RECORD POINTER		TST	COUNT,PCR	CHECK REMAINING NAME CHARS
STD	2,X	STORE RECORD POINTER		BEQ	GF8	END OF NAME FIELD
BRA	REORG8	MOVE NEXT POINTER				
REORG9	LDD	-2,S GET CURRENT RECORD POINTER	GF7	LEAX	1,X	BUMP NAME FIELD POINTER
STD	0,X	STORE IN KEY TABLE		DEC	COUNT,PCR	DECREMENT COUNTER
LBRA	REORG2	INSERT NEXT RECORD POINTER		BNE	GF7	BUMP NAME FIELD POINTER
*****			GF8	CLR	0,X*	CLEAR EXT FIELD
X	GET FILE SPECIFICATION SUBROUTINE			CLR	0,X*	CLEAR EXT FIELD
				CLR	0,X*	CLEAR EXT FIELD

	LEAX	-3,X	POINT TO START OF EXT FIELD	*			D REG = RELATIVE RECORD NUMBER
	LDA	#3	GET EXT FIELD LENGTH	*			
	STA	COUNT,PCR	SET COUNTER				
	LDA	0,Y+	GET NEXT STRING CHAR				
	DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT	WRREC	SUBO	#1	ADJUST TO ZERO SIGNIFICANT
	CHPA	#'A	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		LSLB		SHIFT LEFT B REG
	LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC		ROLA		ROTATE LEFT A REG
	CHPA	#'Z	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		LEAY	KEYTAB,U	GET KEY TABLE ADDRESS
	LBHI	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC		STY	-2,S	STORE KEY TABLE ADDRESS
GF9	STA	0,X+	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD		AODD	-2,S	ADD KEY TABLE LOC TO OFFSET
	TSTB		TEST FOR END OF STRING		TFR	0,Y	MOVE D REG TO Y REG
	BEQ	OF11	EXIT GETF10		LOO	0,Y	GET PHYSICAL RECORD NUMBER
	DEC	COUNT,PCR	DECREMENT FIELD COUNTER		BSR	POSREC	POSITION TO RECORD
	BEQ	OF10	END OF FIELD ENCOUNTERED		LBNE	EXIT	EXIT WITH ERROR
	LDA	0,Y+	GET NEXT STRING CHAR		LEAX	IFCB,U	POINT TO ISAM FCB
	DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT		LDA	#12	GET FMS RND WRITE CODE
	CHPA	#'-	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		STA	0,X	SET FMS FUNCTION CODE
	BEQ	GF9	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD		LDD	RECSIZ,U	GET RECORD SIZE
	CHPA	#'-	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		STO	COUNT,PCR	SET CHAR COUNTER
	BEQ	GF9	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD		LEAY	BUFFER,PCR	POINT TO RECORD BUFFER
	CHPA	#'0	TEST FOR VALID CHAR	WRREC3	LDA	0,Y+	GET CHAR FROM BUFFER
	LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC		JSR	FMS	WRITE RELATIVE BYTE
	CHPA	#'9	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		LBNE	FMSERR	FMS ERROR
	BLE	GF9	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD		LOO	COUNT,PCR	GET CHAR COUNTER
	CHPA	#'A	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		SUBO	#1	DECREMENT CHAR COUNTER
	LBLO	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC		STO	COUNT,PCR	STORE CHAR COUNTER
	CHPA	#'Z	TEST FOR VALID CHAR		BEQ	WRREC4	NO MORE CHARACTERS
	LBHI	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC		INC	35,X	BUMP RND CHAR OFFSET
	BRA	OF9	PUT CHAR IN FCB NAME FIELD		BNE	WRREC3	WRITE NEXT CHAR
					LOO	32,X	GET REL RECORD NUMBER
OF10	LDA	0,Y+	GET NEXT STRING CHAR		AODD	#1	BUMP REL RECORD NUMBER
	CHPA	#SPACE	TEST FOR SPACES		STO	32,X	STORE REL RECORD NUMBER
	LBNE	ERR110	INVALID FILE SPEC		LDA	#15	GET FMS POSITION CODE
	DECB		DECREMENT STRING LEN COUNT		STA	0,X	SET FMS FUNCTION CODE
	BNE	OF10	GET NEXT TRAILING SPACE		JSR	FMS	POSITION TO REL RECORD
OF11	LOO	#0	CLEAR STATUS CODE		LBNE	FMSERR	FMS ERROR
	RTS		RETURN		LDA	#12	GET FMS PUT RND BYTE CODE
					STA	0,X	SET FMS FUNCTION CODE
*			READ RELATIVE RECORD SUBROUTINE		LDA	#4	GET SECTOR OFFSET
*			D REG = RELATIVE RECORD NUMBER	WRREC4	STA	35,X	SET RND BYTE OFFSET
					BRA	WRREC3	WRITE NEXT CHAR
RRREC	SUBO	#1	ADJUST TO ZERO SIGNIFICANT	*			POSITION TO PHYSICAL RECORD SUBROUTINE
	LSLB		SHIFT LEFT B REG	*			D REG = PHYSICAL RECORD NUMBER
	ROLA		ROTATE LEFT A REG				
	LEAY	KEYTAB,U	GET KEY TABLE ADDRESS				
	STY	-2,S	STORE KEY TABLE ADDRESS				
	AODD	-2,S	ADD KEY TABLE LOC TO OFFSET	POSREC	BSR	CSCOFF	CALCULATE OFFSETS
	TFR	0,Y	MOVE D REG TO Y REG		LBNE	EXIT	EXIT WITH ERROR
	LOO	0,Y	GET PHYSICAL RECORD NUMBER		LEAX	IFCB,U	POINT TO ISAM FCB
	LBSR	POSREC	POSITION TO RECORD		LOO	ACCUM4+2,PCR	GET SECTOR OFFSET
	LBNE	EXIT	EXIT WITH ERROR		STO	32,X	SET FCB CURRENT RECORD NO
	LEAX	IFCB,U	POINT TO ISAM FCB		LDA	ACCUM3+3,PCR	GET CHARACTER OFFSET
	LDA	#11	GET FMS RND READ CODE		STA	35,X	SET FCB RNDQUM INDEX
	STA	0,X	SET FMS FUNCTION CODE		LDA	#15	GET FMS POSITION CODE
	LOO	RECSIZ,U	GET RECORD SIZE		STA	0,X	SET FCB FUNCTION CODE
	STO	COUNT,PCR	SET CHAR COUNTER		JSR	FMS	CALL FMS
	LEAY	BUFFER,PCR	POINT TO RECORD BUFFER		LBNE	FMSERR	GOTO FMS ERROR
	STY	-2,S	STORE TEMPORARY		RTS		RETURN
	LOO	INPAR2,PCR	GET MAX RECORD SIZE PARAM				
	AODD	-2,S	ADD TO BUFFER LOCATION	*			CALCULATE SECTOR CHARACTER OFFSET
	TFR	0,Y	MOVE D REG TO Y REG	*			D REG = PHYSICAL RECORD NUMBER
RRREC1	LOO	COUNT,PCR	GET CHAR COUNTER				
	BNE	RRREC2	MORE CHARACTERS				
	LOO	#0	CLEAR STATUS CODE				
	RTS		RETURN				
RRREC2	SUBO	#1	DECREMENT CHAR COUNTER		CSCOFF	STO	ACCUM1,PCR STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 1
	STO	COUNT,PCR	STORE CHAR COUNTER		LOO	RECSIZ,U	GET RECORD SIZE
	JSR	FMS	READ RELATIVE BYTE		STO	ACCUM2,PCR	STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 2
	LBNE	FMSERR	FMS ERROR		LBSR	MUL32	MULT ACCUM1 TIMES ACCUM2
	STA	0,Y+	STORE CHAR IN BUFFER		LOO	ACCUM3,PCR	GET UPPER 16 BITS ACCUM3
	INC	35,X	BUMP RND CHAR OFFSET		STO	ACCUM4,PCR	STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 4
	BNE	RRREC1	READ NEXT CHAR		LDD	ACCUM3+2,PCR	GET LOWER 16 BITS ACCUM3
					STO	ACCUM4+2,PCR	STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 4
	LOO	32,X	GET REL RECORD NUMBER		LOO	MFSIZE,U	GET MAX FILE SIZE
	AODD	#1	BUMP REL RECORD NUMBER		STO	ACCUM1,PCR	STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 1
	STO	32,X	STORE REL RECORD NUMBER		LOO	#2	GET RECORD POINTER SIZE
	LDA	#15	GET FMS POSITION CODE		STO	ACCUM2,PCR	STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 2
	STA	0,X	SET FMS FUNCTION CODE		LBSR	MUL32	MULT ACCUM1 TIMES ACCUM2
	JSR	FMS	POSITION TO REL RECORD				
	LBNE	FMSERR	FMS ERROR		LBSR	ADD32	ADD ACCUM4 TO ACCUM3
	LDA	#11	GET FMS GET RND BYTE CODE		LDD	#252	GET FIRST SECTOR SIZE
	STA	0,X	SET FMS FUNCTION CODE		AODD	#16	ADD ISAM FILE HEADER LENGTH
	LDA	#4	GET SECTOR OFFSET		STO	ACCUM4+2,PCR	STORE IN ACCUMULATOR 4
	STA	35,X	SET RND BYTE OFFSET		CLR	ACCUM4+1,PCR	CLEAR ACCUMULATOR 4
	BRA	RRREC1	READ NEXT CHAR		CLR	ACCUM4,PCR	CLEAR ACCUMULATOR 4
*			WRITE RELATIVE RECORD SUBROUTINE		LBSR	ADD32	ADD ACCUM4 TO ACCUM3
					LBSR	DIV252	DIVIDE ACCUM3 BY 252


```

LDA    ACCUM3,PCR GET ACCUM 3
ADCA   ACCUM4,PCR ADD TO ACCUM 4
STA    ACCUM3,PCR STORE IN ACCUM 3
RTS    RETURN

#      MULTIPLY ACCUM1 ACCUM2 SUBROUTINE
#      ACCUM3 = PRODUCT

MUL32  CLR    ACCUM3,PCR CLEAR FIRST BYTE OF ACCUM3
        CLR    ACCUM3+1,PCR CLEAR 2ND BYTE OF ACCUM3
        LDA    ACCUM2+1,PCR GET LOWER ACCUM2
        LDB    ACCUM1+1,PCR GET LOWER ACCUM1
        MUL    MULTIPLY A REG TIMES B REG
        STD    ACCUM3+2,PCR SAVE RESULTS
        LDA    ACCUM2+1,PCR GET LOWER ACCUM2
        LOB    ACCUM1,PCR GET UPPER ACCUM1
        MUL    MULTIPLY A REG TIMES B REG
        ADDD   ACCUM3+1,PCR ADD ACCUM3 TO RESULT
        STD    ACCUM3+1,PCR STORE IN ACCUM3
        BCC    MUL321 NO CARRY

        INC    ACCUM3,PCR ADD CARRY TO ACCUM3

MUL321 LDA    ACCUM2,PCR GET UPPER ACCUM2
        LDB    ACCUM1+1,PCR GET LOWER ACCUM1
        MUL    MULTIPLY A REG TIMES B REG
        ADDD   ACCUM3+1,PCR ADD ACCUM3 TO RESULT
        STD    ACCUM3+1,PCR STORE RESULT IN ACCUM3
        BCC    MUL322 NO CARRY
        INC    ACCUM3,PCR ADD CARRY TO ACCUM3

MUL322 LDA    ACCUM2,PCR GET UPPER ACCUM2
        LDB    ACCUM1,PCR GET UPPER ACCUM1
        MUL    MULTIPLY A REG TIMES B REG
        ADDD   ACCUM3,PCR ADD ACCUM3 TO RESULT
        STD    ACCUM3,PCR STORE RESULT IN ACCUM3
        RTS    RETURN

#      DIVIDE ACCUM3 BY 252 SUBROUTINE
#      ACCUM3 = REMAINDER
#      ACCUM4 = QUOTIENT

DIV252 LDA    #252 GET DIVISOR
        STA    -8,S STORE IN STACK
        CLR    -7,S CLEAR STACK
        CLR    -6,S CLEAR STACK
        CLR    -5,S CLEAR STACK
        LDA    #1 GET MASK BIT
        STA    -4,S STORE IN STACK
        CLR    -3,S CLEAR STACK
        CLR    -2,S CLEAR STACK
        CLR    -1,S CLEAR STACK
        CLR    ACCUM4,PCR CLEAR ACCUM 4
        CLR    ACCUM4+1,PCR CLEAR ACCUM 4
        CLR    ACCUM4+2,PCR CLEAR ACCUM 4
        CLR    ACCUM4+3,PCR CLEAR ACCUM 4

DIV1   LDA    -8,S GET DIVISOR VALUE
        CMPA   ACCUM3,PCR COMPARE TO DIVIDEND
        BLO   DIV4 SUB DIVISOR FROM DIVIDEND
        BHI   DIV2 ROTATE DIVISOR AND MASK
        LDA    -7,S GET DIVISOR VALUE
        CMPA   ACCUM3+1,PCR COMPARE TO DIVIDEND
        BLD   DIV4 SUB DIVISOR FROM DIVIDEND
        BHI   DIV2 ROTATE DIVISOR AND MASK
        LDA    -6,S GET DIVISOR VALUE
        CMPA   ACCUM3+2,PCR COMPARE TO DIVIDEND
        BLO   DIV4 SUB DIVISOR FROM DIVIDEND
        BHI   DIV2 SHIFT RIGHT DIVISOR AND MASK
        LDA    -5,S GET DIVISOR VALUE
        CMPA   ACCUM3+3,PCR COMPARE TO DIVIDEND
        BLS   DIV4 SUB DIVISOR FROM DIVIDEND

DIV2   LSR    -4,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RDR    -3,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RDR    -2,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RDR    -1,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        BCC   DIV3 SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RTS   RETURN

DIV3   LSR    -8,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RDR    -7,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RDR    -6,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        RDR    -5,S SHIFT RIGHT STACK
        BRA   DIV1 COMPARE DIVISOR TO DIVIDEND

DIV4   LDA    ACCUM3+3,PCR GET ACCUM 3
        SUBA   -5,S SUBTRACT STACK
        STA    ACCUM3+3,PCR STORE ACCUM 3

LDA    ACCUM3+2,PCR GET ACCUM 3
SBCA   -6,S SUBTRACT STACK
STA    ACCUM3+2,PCR STORE ACCUM 3
LDA    ACCUM3+1,PCR GET ACCUM 3
SBCA   -7,S SUBTRACT STACK
STA    ACCUM3+1,PCR STORE ACCUM 3
LDA    ACCUM3,PCR GET ACCUM 3
SBCA   -8,S SUBTRACT STACK
STA    ACCUM3,PCR STORE ACCUM 3
LDA    ACCUM4+3,PCR GET ACCUM 4
ADDA   -1,S ADD STACK
STA    ACCUM4+3,PCR STORE ACCUM 4
LDA    ACCUM4+2,PCR GET ACCUM 4
ADCA   -2,S ADD STACK
STA    ACCUM4+2,PCR STORE ACCUM 4
LDA    ACCUM4+1,PCR GET ACCUM 4
ADCA   -3,S ADD STACK
STA    ACCUM4+1,PCR STORE ACCUM 4
LDA    ACCUM4,PCR GET ACCUM 4
ADCA   -4,S ADD STACK
STA    ACCUM4,PCR STORE ACCUM 4
BRA    DIV2 SHIFT RIGHT DIVISOR & MASK

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X
X          ISAM SUBROUTINE EXIT
X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

EXIT   RTS    RETURN

ERR100 LDD    #100 INVALID FILE NUMBER
        RTS    RETURN

ERR105 LOD    #105 INVALID COMMAND
        RTS    RETURN

ERR110 LOD    #110 INVALID FILE SPECS
        RTS    RETURN

ERR115 LDD    #115 INVALID FILE VERSION
        RTS    RETURN

ERR120 LDD    #120 INVALID RECORD SIZE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR125 LOD    #125 RECORD SIZE TO LARGE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR130 LDD    #130 INVALID FILE SIZE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR135 LDD    #135 FILE SIZE TO LARGE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR140 LDD    #140 ACTUAL FILE SIZE > MAX
        RTS    RETURN

ERR145 LDD    #145 MAX SECTORS EXCEEDED
        RTS    RETURN

ERR150 LOD    #150 CORRUPT FILE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR155 LDD    #155 FILE NOT OPEN
        RTS    RETURN

ERR160 LDD    #160 FILE IS OPEN
        RTS    RETURN

ERR165 LOD    #165 START OF FILE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR170 LOD    #170 END OF FILE
        RTS    RETURN

ERR175 LOD    #175 CANT ADD NULL RECORD
        RTS    RETURN

ERR180 LDD    #180 FILE FULL
        RTS    RETURN

FMSERR CLRA   CLEAR A REGISTER
        LDB   GET FCB STATUS BYTE
        RTS   RETURN

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

```




K-BASIC updates are now available. If you purchased K-BASIC prior to July 1, 1985 and wish to have your K-BASIC updated, please send \$35 enclosed with your master disk to Southeast Media.

K-BASIC under OS-9 and FLEX will now compile TSC BASIC, XBASIC, and XPC Source Code Files

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K-BASIC now makes the multitude of TSC BASIC Software available for use under OS-9. Transfer your favorite BASIC Programs to OS-9, compile them, Assemble them, and **WINO** -- usable, multi-precision, familiar Software is running under your favorite Operating System!

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\$100.00**



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!!! New Prices !!!

Microprocessor Developments Ltd.'s Commercial Application Generator Program provides a **PAST** Commercial Application Development tool unavailable to the OS-9 and UniFLEX User before. Develop any Commercial Application in 20% of the normal required time; gain easy updating or customizing. **PLUS**, the Application can also be run on MS-DOS and Unix machines! Sculptor handles input validation, complex calculations, and exception conditions as well as the normal collecting, displaying, reporting, and updating information in an orderly fashion. Key fields to 160 bytes; unlimited record size; file size should be held to 17 million records. Utilizes ISAM File Structure and B-tree Key files for rapid access. Input and Output communication with other programs and files plus a library of ISAM routines for use with C Programs. Run-time included w/ the Development package; a compiled Application only needs a Run-time License. Additional charge for Networked Units. Prices for Development Package/Run-time. Discounts available for purchases of 5 or more Run-time Packages.

OS-9 / UniFLEX --		68000 UniFLEX --		MS DOS --	
IBM PC Zenix --	\$995.00/\$175.00	Altos Zenix --	\$1595.00/\$265.00	PC DOS --	\$595.00/\$115.00
MS DOS Network --	* **	UNIX --	* **		* **

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!!! Special Buy Out !!! SPECIAL - Limited Quantity !!! Special Buy Out !!!

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TSC Extended Precompiler	was \$50.00 Now only \$35.00	TSC Debug	was \$25.00 Now only \$20.00
TSC Text Processor	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00	TSC Mnemonic Assembler	was \$25.00 Now only \$20.00
TSC Flex Precompiler	was \$50.00 Now only \$35.00		
TSC Flex Basic	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00	COMPLETE 6800 SOFTWARE	
TSC Flex Diagnostic	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00	TSC Text Processor	was \$50.00 Now only \$35.00
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TSC Debug	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00		
TSC Precompiler	was \$50.00 Now only \$35.00	DISKS ONLY - 6800 Software	
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TSC Utilities	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00	TSC Assemblers	was \$50.00 Now only \$35.00
	DISKS ONLY	MANUALS ONLY - 6800 Software	
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TSC Basic Flex	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00	TSC Debug	was \$25.00 Now only \$20.00
TSC Diagnostics	was \$75.00 Now only \$50.00	TSC Text Processor	was \$25.00 Now only \$20.00
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ASSEMBLERS

- ASTRUK09** from Southeast Media -- A "Structured Assembler for the 6809" which requires the TSC Macro Assembler. F, CCF - \$99.95
- Macro Assembler** for TSC -- The FLEX STANDARD Assembler. Special -- CCF \$35.00; F \$50.00
- OSM Extended 6809 Macro Assembler** from Lloyd I/O. -- Provides local labels, Motorola S-records, and Intel Hex records; XREF. Generate OS-9 Memory modules under FLEX. FLEX, CCF, OS-9 \$99.00
- Relocating Assembler w/Linking Loader** from TSC. -- Use with many of the C and Pascal Compilers. F, CCF \$150.00
- MACE**, by Graham Trott from Windrush Micro Systems -- Co-Resident Editor and Assembler; fast interactive A.L. Programming for small to medium-sized Programs. F, CCF - \$75.00
- MACE** -- MACE w/ Cross Assembler for 6800/1/2/3/8 F, CCF - \$98.00
- TRUE CROSS ASSEMBLERS** from Computer Systems Consultants -- Supports 1802/5, Z-80, 6800/1/2/3/8/11/HC11, 6804, 6805/HC05/146805, 6809/00/01, 6502 family, 8080/5, 8020/1/2/35/C35/39/40/48/C48/49/C49/50/8748/49, 8031/51/8751, and 68000 Systems. Assembler and Listing formats same as target CPU's format. Produces machine independent Motorola S-Text. FLEX, CCF, OS-9, UniFLEX each - \$50.00 any 3 - \$100.00 the complete set w/ C Source (except the 68000 Source) - \$200.00
- XASM Cross Assemblers for FLEX** from Compusense Ltd. -- This set of 6800/1/2/3/5/8, 6301, 6502, 8080/5, and 280 Cross Assemblers uses the familiar TSC Macro Assembler Command Line and Source Code format, Assembler options, etc., in providing code for the target CPU's. Complete set, FLEX only - \$150.00
- CRASH8** from Lloyd I/O -- 8-Bit Macro Cross Assembler with same features as OSM; cross-assemble to 6800/1/2/3/4/5/8/9/11, 6502, 1802, 8048 Sers, 80/85, Z-8, Z-80, TMS-7000 sers. Supports the target chip's standard mnemonics and addressing modes. FLEX, CCF, OS-9 Full package -- \$399.00
- CRASH8 16.32** from Lloyd I/O -- Cross Assembler for the 68000. FLEX, CCF, OS-9 \$249.00

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10X Air Foreign



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DISASSEMBLERS

- SUPER SLEUTH** from Computer Systems Consultants -- Interactive; Disassembler; extremely POWERFUL Disk File Binary/ASCII Examine/Change, Absolute or FULL Disassembly, XREF Generator, Label "Name Changer", and Files of "Standard Label Names" for different Operating Systems
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| CCO (32K Req'd) Obj. Only \$49.00 | F. \$99.00 |
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| CCF, w/Source \$99.00 | O. \$101.00 |
| CCO, Obj. Only \$50.00 | |
- DYNAMITE** + from Computer Systems Center -- Excellent standard "Batch Mode" Disassembler. Includes XREF Generator and "Standard Label" Files. Special OS-9 options w/ OS-9 Version.
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| CCF, Obj. Only \$100.00 | CCO, Obj. Only \$ 59.95 |
| F. " " \$100.00 | O. " " \$150.00 |
| U. " " \$300.00 | |

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

- PL/9** from Windrush Micro Systems -- By Graham Trott. A combination Editor/Compiler/Debugger. Direct source-to-object compilation delivering fast, compact, re-entrant, ROM-able, PIC, 8 & 16-bit Integers & 6-digit Real numbers for all real-world problems. Direct control over ALL System resources, including interrupts. Comprehensive library support; simple Machine Code interface; step-by-step tracer for instant debugging. 500+ page Manual with tutorial guide. F, CCF - \$198.00
- MINISICAL** from Minisical Developments -- Now supports Real Numbers. "Structured Programming" WITHOUT losing the Speed and Control of Assembly Language! Single-pass Compiler features unified, user-defined I/O; produces ROMable Code; Procedures and Modules (including pre-compiled Modules); many "Types" up to 32 bit Integers, 6-digit Real Numbers, unlimited sized Arrays (vectors only); Interrupt handling; long Variable Names; Variable Initialization; include directive; Conditional compiling; direct Code insertion; control of the Stack Pointer; etc. Run-time subroutines inserted as called during compilation. Normally produces 10% less code than PL/9. F and CCF - \$195.00
- C Compiler** from Windrush Micro Systems by James McCosn. Full C for FLEX except bit-fields, including an Assembler. Requires the TSC Relocating Assembler if user desires to implement his own Libraries. F and CCF - \$295.00
- C Compiler** from Intel -- Full C except Doubles and Bit Fields, streamlined for the 6809. Reliable Compiler; FAST, efficient Code. More UNIX Compatible than most. F, CCF, O, and U - \$375.00
- PASCAL Compiler** from Lucidata -- ISO Based P-Code Compiler. Designed especially for Microcomputer Systems. Allows linkage to Assembler Code for maximum flexibility. F and CCF \$* - \$190.00 F# - \$205.00
- PASCAL Compiler** from OmegaSoft (now Certified Software) -- For the PROFESSIONAL; ISO Based, Native Code Compiler. Primarily for Real-Time and Process Control applications. Powerful; Flexible. Requires a "Motorola Compatible" Relo. Asmb. and Linking loader. F and CCF - \$425.00 One Year Maint. - \$100.00
- R-BASIC** from LLOYD I/O -- A "Native Code" BASIC Compiler which is now Fully TSC X8ASIC compatible. The compiler compiles to Assembly Language Source Code. A NEW, streamlined, Assembler is now included allowing the assembly of LARGE Compiled R-BASIC Programs. Conditional assembly reduces Run-time package. FLEX, CCF, OS-9 Compiler with Assembler - \$199.00
- CRUNCH COBOL** from Compusense Ltd. -- Supports large subset of ANSI Level 1 COBOL with many of the useful Level 2 features. Full FLEX File Structures, including Random Files and the ability to process Keyed Files. Segment and link large programs at runtime, or implemented as a set of overlays. The System requires 56K and CAM be run with a single Disk System. FLEX, CCF; Normally \$199.00 Special Introductory Price (while in effect) -- \$99.95
- FORTH** from Stearns Electronics -- A CoCo FORTH Programming Language. Tailored to the CoCo! Supplied on Tape, transferable to disk. Written in FAST ML. Many CoCo functions (Graphics, Sound, etc.). Includes an Editor, Trace, etc. Provides CPU Carry Flag accessibility, Fast Task Multiplexing, Clean Interrupt Handling, etc. for the "Pro". Excellent "learning" tool! Color Computer ONLY - \$58.95

Availability Legends --
F = FLEX, CCF = Color Computer FLEX
O = OS-9, CCO = Color Computer OS-9
U = UniFLEX
CCO = Color Computer Disk
CCF = Color Computer Tape



SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Basic09 XRef from Southeast Media -- This Basic09 Cross Reference Utility is a Basic09 Program which will produce a "pretty printed" listing with each line numbered, followed by a complete cross referenced listing of all variables, external procedures, and line numbers called. Also includes a Program List Utility which outputs a fast "pretty printed" listing with line numbers. Requires Basic09 or RunB.

O & CCO obj. only -- \$39.95; w/ Source - \$79.95

Lucidata PASCAL UTILITIES (Requires LOCIDATA Pascal ver 3)

XREF -- produce a Cross Reference Listing of any text; oriented to Pascal Source.

INCLUDE -- Include other files in a Source Text, including Binary; unlimited nesting capabilities.

PROFILER -- provides an Indented, Numbered, "Structogram" of a Pascal Source Text File; view the overall structure of large programs, program integrity, etc. Supplied in Pascal Source Code; requires compilation.

P, CCF -- **RACH Utility** 5" - \$40.00, 8" - \$50.00

DUB from Southeast Media -- A UnIFLEX "basic" De-Compiler. Re-create a Source Listing from UnIFLEX Compiled basic Programs. Works w/ ALL Versions of 6809 UnIFLEX basic. U - \$219.95

FULL SCREEN FORMS DISPLAY from Computer Systems Consultants -- YSC Extended BASIC program supports any Serial Terminal with Cursor Control or Memory-Mapped Video Displays; substantially extends the capabilities of the Program Designer by providing a table-driven method of describing and using Full Screen Displays.

F and CCP, U - \$25.00; w/ Source - \$50.00

DISK UTILITIES

OS-9 VDisk from Southeast Media -- For Level I only. Use the Extended Memory capability of your SHTPC or Glimx CPU card (or similar format DAT) for FAST Program Compiles, CMD execution, High speed Inter-process communications (without pipe buffers), etc. - SAVE that System Memory. Virtual Disk size is variable in 4K increments up to 960K. Some Assembly Required.

-- Level I ONLY -- OS-9 obj. only - \$79.95; w/ Source - \$149.95

O-F from Southeast Media -- Written in BASIC09 (with Source), includes: **REFORMAT**, a BASIC09 Program that reformats a chosen amount of an OS-9 disk to FLEX Format so it can be used normally by FLEX; and **FLEX**, a BASIC09 Program that does the actual read or write function to the special **O-F Transfer Disk**; user-friendly menu driven. Read the FLEX Directory, Delete FLEX Files, Copy both directions, etc. FLEX users use the special disk just like any other FLEX disk. **SPECIAL 60 DAY OFFER O-\$39.95**

COPYMULT from Southeast Media -- Copy LARGE Disks to several smaller disks. FLEX utilities allow the backup of ANY size disk to any SMALLER size diskettes (Hard Disk to Floppies, 8" to 5", etc.) by simply inserting diskettes as requested by COPYMULT. No fooling with directory deletions, etc. **COPYMULT.CMD** understands normal "copy" syntax and keeps up with files copied by maintaining directories for both host and receiving disk system. Also includes **BACKUP.CMD** to download any size "random" type file; **RESTORE.CMD** to restructure copied "random" files for copying, or recopying back to the host system; and **FREELINK.CMD** as a "bonus" utility that "relinks" the free chain of floppy or hard disk, eliminating fragmentation.

Completely documented Assembly Language Source files included.

ALL 4 Programs (FLEX, 8" or 5") \$99.50

COPYCAT from Lucidata -- Pascal NOT required. Allows reading TSC Mini-FLEX, SSB DDS6B, and Digital Research CP/M Disks while operating under FLEX 1.0, FLEX 2.0, or FLEX 9.0 with 6800 or 6809 Systems. COPYCAT will not perform miracles, but, between the program and the manual, you stand a good chance of accomplishing a transfer. Also includes some Utilities to help out. Programs supplied in Modular Source Code (Assembly Language) to help solve unusual problems.

F and CCF 5" - \$50.00 F 8" - \$65.00



** SHIPPING **
Add 2% U.S.A.
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Availability Legend

F = FLEX, CCP = Color Computer FLEX
O = OS-9, CCO = Color Computer OS-9
U = UnIFLEX
CCD = Color Computer Disk
CCF = Color Computer Tape

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CoCo OS-9" FLEX"
SOFTWARE

FLEX DISK UTILITIES from Computer Systems Consultants -- Eight (8) different Assembly Language (w/ Source Code) FLEX Utilities for every FLEX Users Toolbox: Copy a File with CRC Errors; Test Disk for errors; Compare two Disks; a fast Disk Backup Program; Edit Disk Sectors; Linearize Free-Chain on the Disk; print Disk Identification; and Sort and Replace the Disk Directory (in sorted order). -- **PLUS** -- Ten X-BASIC Programs including: A BASIC Sequencer with EXTRAS over "RENUM" like check for missing label definitions, processes Disk to Disk instead of in Memory, etc. Other programs Compare, Merge, or Generate Updates between two BASIC Programs, check BASIC Sequence Numbers, compare two unsequenced files, and 5 Programs for establishing a Master Directory of several Disks, and sorting, selecting, updating, and printing paginated listings of these files. A BASIC Cross-Reference Program, written in Assembly Language, which provides an X-Ref Listing of the Variables and Reserved Words in TSC BASIC, CBASIC, and PUNCHPULD BASIC Programs.

ALL Utilities include Source (either BASIC or A.L. Source Code).

F and CCP - \$50.00

BASIC Utilities ONLY for UnIFLEX --

\$30.00

COMMUNICATIONS

MODEM Telecommunications Program from Computer Systems Consultants, Inc. -- Menu-Driven; supports Dumb-Terminal Mode, Upload and Download in non-protocol mode, and the CP/M "Modem7" Christensen protocol mode to enable communication capabilities for almost any requirement. Written in "C".

FLEX, CCF, OS-9, UnIFLEX; with complete Source - \$100.00
without Source - \$50.00

XDATA from Southeast Media -- A COMMUNICATION Package for the UnIFLEX Operating System. Use with CP/M, Main Frames, other UnIFLEX Systems, etc. Verifies Transmission using checksum or CRC; Re-Transmits bad blocks, etc. U - \$299.99

GAME

RAPIER - 680g Chess Program from Southeast Media -- Requires FLEX and Displays on ANY Type Terminal. Features: Four levels of play. Swap side. Point scoring system. Two display boards. Change skill level. Solve Checkmate problems in 1-2-3-4 moves. Make move and swap sides. Play white or black. This is one of the strongest CHESS programs running on any microcomputer, estimated USCF Rating 1600+ (better than most 'club' players at higher levels). F and CCF - \$79.95

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**CoCo OS-9™ FLEX™
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WORD PROCESSING

SCREDITOR III from Mindrush Micro Systems -- Powerful Screen-Oriented Editor/Word Processor. Almost 50 different commands; over 300 pages of Documentation with Tutorial. Features Multi-Column display and editing, "decimal align" columns (AND add them up automatically), multiple keystroke macros, even/odd page headers and footers, imbedded printer control codes, all justifications, "help" support, store common command series on disk, etc. Use supplied "set-ups", or remap the keyboard to your needs. Except for proportional printing, this package will DO IT ALL!

6800 or 6809 FLEX or 558 005, OS-9 - \$175.00

STYLO-GRAPH from Great Plains Computer Co. -- A full-screen oriented WORD PROCESSOR -- (uses the 51 x 24 Display Screens on CoCo FLEX/STAF-DOS, or PBJ Wordpak). Full screen display and editing; supports the Daisy Wheel proportional printers.

NEW PRICES --> CCP and CCO - \$99.95, F or O - \$179.95, U - \$299.95

STYLO-SPELL from Great Plains Computer Co. -- Fast Computer Dictionary. Complements Stylograph.

NEW PRICES --> CCP and CCO - \$69.95, F or O - \$99.95, U - \$269.95

STYLO-MERGE from Great Plains Computer Co. -- Merge Mailing List to "Form" Letters, Print multiple Files, etc., through Stylo.

NEW PRICES --> CCP and CCO - \$59.95, F or O - \$79.95, U - \$129.95



JUST from Southeast Media -- Text Formatter developed by Ron Anderson; for Dot Matrix Printers, provides many unique features. Output "Formatted" Text to the Display. Use the PPRINT.COM supplied for producing multiple copies of the "Formatted" Text on the Printer INCLUDING IMBEDDED PRINTER COMMANDS (very useful at other times also, and worth the price of the program by itself). "User Configurable" for adapting to other Printers (comes set up for Epson HX-80 with Graitrax); up to ten (10) imbedded "Printer Control Commands". Compensates for a "Double Width" printed line. Includes the normal line width, margin, indent, paragraph, space, vertical skip lines, page length, page numbering, centering, fill, justification, etc. Use with PAT or any other editor.

* Now supplied as a two disk set:
Disk #1: JUST2.COM object file, JUST2.TXT PL9 source: FLEX - CC
Disk #2: JUSTSC object and source in C: FLEX - OS9 - CC

The JTSC and regular JUST C source are two separate programs. JTSC compiles to a version that expects TSC Word Processor type commands, (.pp .sp .cc etc.) Great for your older text files.

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The C source compiles to a standard syntax JUST.COM object file. Using JUST syntax (.p .u .y etc.) With all JUST functions plus several additional printer formatting functions. Reference the JUSTSC C source. For those wanting an excellent BUDGET PRICED word processor, with features none of the others have. This is it!

Disk (1) - PL9 FLEX Version only - F & CCP - \$49.95
Disk Set (2) - F & CCP & OS9 (C version) - \$69.95

SPELL "Computer Dictionary" from Southeast Media -- OVER 120,000 words! Look up a word from within your Editor or Word Processor (with the SPH.COM Utility which operates in the FLEX UCS). Or check and update the Text after entry; ADD WORDS to the Dictionary, "Flag" questionable words in the Text, "View a word in context" before changing or ignoring, etc. SPELLS first checks a "Common Word Dictionary", then the normal Dictionary, then a "Personal Word List", and finally, any "Special Word List" you may have specified. SPELLS also allows the use of Small Disk Storage systems.

F and CCF - \$129.95

DATA BASE - ACCOUNTING

XDMS from Westchester Applied Business Systems -- Powerful DBMS; M.I. program will work on a single sided 5" disk, yet is F-A-S-T. Supports Relational, Sequential, Hierarchical, and Random Access File Structures; has Virtual Memory capabilities for Giant Data Bases. XDMS Level I provides an "entry level" System for defining a Data Base, entering and changing the Data, and producing Reports. XDMS Level II adds the POWERFUL "GENERATE" facility with an English Language Command Structure for manipulating the Data to create new File Structures, Sort, Select, Calculate, etc. XDMS Level III adds special "Utilities" which provide additional ease in setting up a Data Base, such as copying old data into new Data Structures, changing System Parameters, etc.

XDMS System Manual - \$24.95 **XDMS Lvl I** - F & CCF - \$129.95
XDMS Lvl II - F & CCF - \$199.95
XDMS Lvl III - F & CCF - \$269.95

ACCOUNTING PACKAGES -- Great Plains Computer Co. and Universal Data Research, Inc. both have Data Base and Business Packages written in TSC XBASIC for FLEX, CoCo FLEX, and UNIFLEX.

MISCELLANEOUS

TABULA RASA SPREADSHEET from Computer Systems Consultants -- TABULA RASA is similar to DESKTOP/PLAN; provides use of tabular computation schemes used for analysis of business, sales, and economic conditions. Menu-driven; extensive report-generation capabilities. Requires TSC's Extended BASIC.

F and CCP, U - \$50.00, w/ Source - \$100.00

DYNACALC from Computer Systems Center -- Electronic Spread Sheet for the 6809.

F and SPECIAL CCF - \$200.00, U - \$395.00

FULL SCREEN INVENTORY/MRP from Computer Systems Consultants -- Use the Full Screen Inventory System/Materials Requirement Planning for maintaining inventories. Keeps item field file in alphabetical order for easier inquiry. Locate and/or print records matching partial or complete item, description, vendor, or attributes; find backorder or below stock levels. Print-outs in item or vendor order. MRP capability for the maintenance and analysis of Hierarchical assemblies of items in the inventory file. Requires TSC's Extended BASIC.

F and CCP, U - \$50.00, w/ Source - \$100.00

FULL SCREEN MAILING LIST from Computer Systems Consultants -- The Full Screen Mailing List System provides a means of maintaining simple mailing lists. Locate all records matching on partial or complete name, city, state, zip, or attributes for listings or labels, etc. Requires TSC's Extended BASIC.

F and CCP, U - \$50.00, w/ Source - \$100.00

DIET-TRAC Forecaster from Southeast Media -- An XBASIC program that plans a diet in terms of either calories and percentage of carbohydrates, proteins and fats (C P G) or grams of Carbohydrate, Protein and Fat food exchanges of each of the six basic food groups (vegetable, bread, meat, skim milk, fruit and fat) for a specific individual. Sex, Age, Height, Present Weight, Frame Size, Activity Level and Basal Metabolic Rate for normal individual are taken into account. Ideal weight and sustaining calories for any weight of the above individual are calculated. Provides number of days and daily calendar after weight goal and calorie plan is determined.

F - \$59.95, U - \$89.95

Availability Legend --

F = FLEX, CCP = Color Computer FLEX
O = OS-9, CCO = Color Computer OS-9
U = UNIFLEX
CCD = Color Computer Disk
CCT = Color Computer Tape

!!! Please Specify Your Operating System & Disk Size !!!


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84 *** temp storage here ***
85
86 ISAVE) RFD 2 Function location pointer
87 FNUM) RFD 1 requested function number
88 FLAG) FCB 0 diversion flag
89 REATOP) RFD 2 ordinal FLEX REWARD value
90 INDFL) RFD 2 orig FLEX INDX call
91 OUTFL) RFD 2 ORIG FLEX OUTCH VECTOR
92
93 C16A AD 9C F9 TRSD) JBR (INDXFL,PCB) get next char
94 C16D 17 00A0 I)BR) BPRZ)Z receive it
95 C170 81 30 EDIT)C) C)DA) want to edit?
96 C172 27 25 BEV) edit go edit
97 C174 AD 79 BBA) VALID) get address of string
98 C176 25 09 PCB) START)
99 C178 63 8C EB) COH) FLAG,PCB) get diversion flag
100 C17E AE 8C E2) F)ND)T) L)D) I)SAVE),PCB) save location of next char
101 C17E AE 84 L)D) get next char
102 C180 81 00 C)DA) BCR) is it the end?
103 C182 26 09 B)NE) D)R)N)E)T) if not, continue
104 C184 6F 8C DC) F)N)C)R) CLR) FLAG,PCB) clear diversion flag
105 C187 20 00 B)R) RETURN)
106 C189 81 3C D)R)N)E)T) B)NE) D)I)S)P)A)L) no input from operator needed?
107 C18B 26 09 CLR) FLAG,PCB) set to normal
108 C18D 6F 8C D3) B)R) START) get user input
109 C190 20 BF D)I)S)P)L) J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) send char to terminal
110 C192 AD 9C D3) L)E)A)I) point to next entry
111 C195 30 01 B)R) RETURN)
112 C197 20 C)
113
114 C199 AD 9C CA) E)D)I)T) J)B)R) (INDXFL,PCB) get function no
115 C19C 8D 72 B)R) B)D)A)C)
116 C19E 8D 4F B)R) VALID) see if 1-9 & get address
117 C1A0 25 AF B)C)S) START) error
118 C1A2 8F 8C B)B) S)T)X) I)SAVE),PCB) save entry value
119
120 * DISPLAY FUNCTION KEYS
121
122 C1A5 86 66 D)I)S)P)L)Y) L)D)R) B)F)
123 C1A7 AD 9C 9E J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) send to terminal
124 C1A9 86 8C 95 L)D)A) F)N)U)M),PCB) get function number
125 C1AD AD 9C 99 J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) send to temp
126 C1B0 86 3D L)D)R) B)F)
127 C1B2 AD 9C 83 J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) send to temp
128 C1B5 AE 8C 8B L)D) I)SAVE),PCB) point to location
129 C1B8 AE 8C 8B F)L)O)O) L)D)R) get char
130 C1BA 81 00 C)DA) A)C)B) is it last char in function
131
132 C1C 87 09 B)E)D) E)N)E)X)T) go get new function
133 C1C 87 09 J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) no so print it
134 C1C 87 09 B)A)O) Q)U)O)P) loop for more
135 C1C 87 09 L)D)A) F)O)R)C)E)
136 C1C 87 09 B)R) RETURN)
137
138 * NOW ON FOR R
139
140 C1C7 86 3A E)N)E)X)T) L)D)A) B)F) separator
141 C1C9 AD 9C 9C J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) send to term
142 C1CC AD 9C 97 J)B)R) (INDXFL,PCB) get option
143 C1CF 81 3E C)DA) B)A) want to replace?
144 C1D1 26 F0 B)NE) START)Z) no so exit
145
146 * ENTER STRING
147
148 C1D3 86 3D L)D)A) B)F) prompt
149 C1D5 AD 9C 90 J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) print it
150 C1D8 AE 8C 85 L)D)X) I)SAVE),PCB) point to where it goes
151 C1DB 86 27 L)D)R) (LINEFL) get line length-1
152 C1DE AD 9C 86 E)Q)U)A)T) J)B)R) (INDXFL,PCB) get char from operator
153 C1E2 81 00 S)T)A) O)I) have it in table
154 C1E4 27 07 C)DA) B)C)A) was it a CR?
155 C1E6 5A F4 B)E)D) D)O)N)E) yes
156 C1E7 26 04 D)E)C)B) no reduce available space
157 C1E9 86 00 B)NE) E)D)I)C)E)D) end of function?
158 C1E9 87 00 L)D)A) B)C)A) insert CR
159 C1ED 20 D4 D)O)N)E) B)A) START)Z) exit
160
161 *
162 * THIS ROUTINE VALIDATES THE KEY
163 * NUMBER AND RETURNS WITH X POINTING
164 * TO THE STRING ADDRESS.
165 *
166
167 C1F7 87 8D FF6F) V)A)I)D) S)T)A) F)N)U)M),PCB) save function no
168 C1F3 81 30 C)DA) B)C)A) less than 0?
169 C1F3 83 16 B)R) B)I)R)O)R) (0 not allowed)
170 C1F7 81 39 C)DA) B)C)A) greater than 9?
171 C1F3 83 12 B)N)I) E)A)R)O)N) '9 not allowed)
172 C1F8 80 31 S)U)B)R) B)F) SET TO BINARY-1 adjust
173 C1F8 80 30 O)D)I)S) TABLE,PCB) point to location in table
174
175 * MULTIPLY BY LINEL TO INDEX INTO TABLE
176 * THEN ADD TO I TO POINT TO ENTRY
177
178 C201 86 28 L)O)B) B)I)N)E)L) get line length
179 C203 30 87 F)A)I) A)O)P)I)D)
180 C204 30 8B L)E)A)I) I)D)I)D)
181 C206 8F 8D FF56) S)T)X) I)SAVE),PCB) save location
182 C20A 1C FE C)I)C) C)I)D) carry
183 C20C 39 RT)S) return
184 C20D 1A 01 E)R)R)O)R) S)E)C) set carry if error
185 C20F 39 S)T)X)
186 C210 3A 02 B)S)P)A)C)H) L)D)A) B)A)C) save char in acc A
187 C212 86 C)C)O)D) L)D)A) B)A)C) get FLEX backup char
188 C215 AD 9D FF4F) J)B)R) (OUTFL,PCB) send to term
189 C219 33 02 A)U)A)R) restore char
190 C21B 39 RT)S) return
191
192 * TABLE OF PRESET COMMANDS
193
194 C21C 38 44 4D 53) T)A)B)L)E) F)C)C) /X)D)M)S) command 1
195 C220 0D F)C)B) /C)R) command 2
196
197 C224) O)R)G) 4)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
198 C224) 44 43 46 49) F)C)C) /D)E)F)I)N)E) \) command 2
199 C22C) 08 F)C)B) C)R)
200
201 C22C) O)R)G) 2)O)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
202 C22C) 33 30 44 41) F)C)C) /U)P)D)A)T)E) \) command 3
203 C270) 34 43 20 3C) F)C)B) C)R)
204 C27A) 00
205
206 C234) O)R)G) 3)M)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
207 C234) 47 45 46 45) F)C)C) /A)B)E)R)A)T)E) \) command 4
208 C23E) 20 3C) F)C)B) C)R)

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208 C23C) 20 47 45) O)R)G) 4)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
209 C23C) 4E 43 52 41) F)C)C) /P)G)E)N)E)R)A)T)E) \) command 5
210 C2C4) 5A 43 2C 3C) F)C)B) C)R)
211 C2C8) 00
212 C2E4) 45 44 49 34) O)R)G) 5)O)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
213 C2E4) 45 44 49 34) F)C)C) /E)D)I)T) \) command 6
214 C2E8) 40 3C 20
215 C2E8) 00) F)C)B) C)R)
216 C30C) 44 49 32 20) O)R)G) 6)O)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
217 C310) 2E 4D 4E 50) F)C)C) /D)I)R) .A)N)U) .C)I)L) .D)M)S) command 7
218 C314) 40 2E 43 54)
219 C318) 4C 20 2E 44)
220 C31E) 4D 3A)
221 C31E) 00) F)C)B) C)R)
222 C334) 4C 49 3A 54) O)R)G) 7)O)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
223 C334) 4C 49 3A 54) F)C)C) /L)I)S)T) \) command 8
224 C33A) 00) F)C)B) C)R)
225 C35C)
226 C360) 00) O)R)G) 8)O)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
227 C360) 00) F)C)C) /O)U)I)T) \) command 9
228 C360) 00) F)C)B) C)R)
229 C384)
230 C384) 00) O)R)G) 9)O)L)I)N)E)L)T)A)B)L)E)
231 C384) 00) F)C)B) C)R)
232 C38B) 2)Z)E)N)D) E)D)U) *
233
234 END) START)Z)
235
236 * ERROR(S) DETECTED
237
238 SYMBO)L) T)A)B)L)E)
239
240 B)A)C)H) C)C)O)B) F)R)A)C)E) C)2)1)0) C)H)A)R)I)T) C)1)8)9) L)R) O)U)O)D) C)A)F)S) C)D)4)
241 D)I)S)P)L) C)1)9)2) D)I)S)P)A) C)1)A)5) D)O)N)E) C)I)E)D) E)D)I)T) C)1)9)9) E)D)I)F)A) C)1)7)0)
242 E)D)O)O)D) C)1)0)0) E)M)U)E)X)T) C)1)C)7) L)A)R)O)R) C)2)0) F)I)N)P)I) C)2)0)9) F)I)N)P)2) C)2)0)C)
243 F)I)N)P)I) C)1)7)8) F)A)G) C)1)6)3) F)A)C)E)R) C)C)2) F)A)M)A) C)1)6)2) F)U)N)C)T) C)1)6)4)
244 F)U)N)C)T) C)1)0)5) O)U)T)F)L) C)1)6)8) O)U)T)P)I) C)D)O)F) O)U)I)D)E) C)2)1)2) F)L)O)O)P) C)1)8)8)
245 R)E)O)C) C)1)8)9) R)E)T)U)R) C)1)5)9) R)A)N) C)1)0)7) S)T)A)R)T) C)1)4)9) S)T)A)R)T)1) C)1)0)1)
246 S)T)A)R)T)Z) C)1)C)3) S)T)A)R)T)Z) C)1)0)0) T)A)B)L)E) C)1)C) T)A)R)D) C)1)0)3) T)R)A)P)I) C)1)6)4)
247 T)R)I)G)O)R) 0)0)9) V)A)I)D) C)1)E)F) V)N) 0)U)I)D) W)A)R)D) C)2)0)3) I)S)R)A)I) C)1)6)0)
248 Z)I)N)D) C)3)C)5)
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76 C163 AF 8D 0071      BTX  CLAROS,PCR
77 C167 C6 88          LDB  *LINE1
78 C169 JA            ASK
81 C169 AF 8D 0066      BTX  EDFLIN,PCR
82 C16C 6A 8D 0068      DEC  LINCT,PCR
83 C172 E6 C7          BNE  RABDLP
84 C174 86 04          LDR  *04
85 C176 8E C840        LDX  *FCB
86 C179 87 84          STA  *1
87 C17B 8D 0406        JSR  *MS
88 C17E 26 03          BNE  *ERROR
89 C180 7E C003        JMP  *WARGS
90
91
92
93 C183 8D C03F        * ERROR PROCESSING
94 C186 8D 0403        * ERROR
95 C189 7E C003        JSR  *FMSCLS
96
97
98
99 C18C AE 8D 0000      * THE FOLLOWING ARE SOFT ERRORS
100 C190 8D C01E        ERROR1 LDJ  *MSB1,PCR
101 C192 20 0F        ERR211 JSR  *PSTRMS
102 C195 AE 8D 001E        ERROR2 BRR  *ENDIT
103 C199 20 F3          ERR322 LDJ  *MSG2,PCR
104
105
106
107 C19D 4C 45 53 53    * ERROR STRINGS
      C19F 20 54 48 41    MSG1: FCC  /LESS THAN 9 ENTRIES FOUND/
      C1A3 4E 20 39 20
      C1A7 45 4E 54 52
      C1AB 49 45 53 20
      C1AF 46 4F 55 4E
108
109
110 C1B3 44            C1B4 0D 0A          FCB  *0,0A
      C1B6 04          FCB  *1
      C1B7 4C 49 4E 45    MSG2: FCC  /LINE EXCEEDS 40 CHARACTERS/
      C1B8 20 49 58 43
      C1B9 45 45 44 53
      C1C3 20 3A 30 20
      C1C7 43 48 41 52
      C1CB 41 43 54 45
      C1CF 52 53
      C1D1 0D 0A          FCB  *0,0A
      C1D3 04          FCB  *1
111
112
113
114
115
116 C1D4            EDFLIN  *MS  2
117 C1D6            EOF TAP  *ME  2
118 C1D8            CURPOS  *RB  2
119 C1DA            LINCT  *MS  1
120 C1DB            TABSTA  *WB  2
121
122
      END  START

```

SYMBOL TABLE:

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CURPOS C1D8  ENDIT C174  EDFLIN C1D4  EOF TAP C1D6  ERRRT C198
ERRDR C183  ERRDR1 C10C  ERROR2 C195  FCB C840  FINE1 C009
FMS D406  FMSCLS D403  DETYFL C02D  LINCT C1D4  LINE1 C028
LINCT C19  MSG1 C19B  MSG2 C187  OFFSET C0D3  PSTRMS C01E
READLP C13B  RTEAR C03F  SETE1 C033  START C100  TABSTA C103
TABSTA C143  WARGS C10B  WARGS C003

```

Dear Don,
 Thank you for your letter regarding my submission to 68 Micro. I also would like to thank you for extending my subscription.

Since the time I submitted the revised version of FUNCTION.COM to you, I have added several upgrades that readers may want to have. I will itemize them and if you feel there might be any interest, I will send you the new version to publish. First I added a check to see if FUNCTION was already resident and if so, a message is printed to tell the operator. Second I added an automatic feature to read the date from the system Month Day Year registers and place this date as an ASCII value into function 49. Third, at the request of a friend that had a special need, I added the ability to embed the "0" character in the function and have it perform the same as ROL, normally "r". Last, I modified the way the edit function operates. To edit one of the functions, you enter TAB, then the function number. The function which is stored will then be displayed. If you wish to change it, you just type in the desired statement. If you change your mind, entering a <CR> will abort the edit. This was done because I could never remember to enter an "R" to signify replacement before editing.

The second reason I am writing results from your statement that you would appreciate any additional material that I have. It occurred to me that some readers might be interested in the Payroll system that I am developing using XDRS. It would be difficult, if not impossible to just put it together as a big article and have it make sense. However the thought struck me, that if you were willing to give me a little guidance, I could turn it into a series of articles on how to implement a rather difficult subject using XDRS and AUTOTASK. I have no idea as to the ramifications of what I just said but at least it would be interesting and would be a chance to share some knowledge with other 68 Micro readers. I have a lot of software using these two programs such as a Check Register program to organize records by expense type and also balance a your checkbook.

Just for the record, I am using the PT-69 with my software in a vertical market situation and have been more than satisfied with Peripheral Technology's system. Also Fredrick Brown, the owner, has been of great assistance to me and the hardware has been the most reliable I have seen.

If you would be interested in pursuing the thoughts above, please contact me either by letter or by phone.

Jim Gerwitz
 Jim Gerwitz
 7907 E. Wood DR
 Scottsdale AZ 85260
 Home: 602-948-9304

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED
FUNSET1.TXT
1,00=EDIT \
2,00=LIST \
3,00=DEL \
4,00=DS
5,00=DLIST
6,00=CDPV \
7,00=JMSRSHB \
8,00=JMSRSHB \
9,00=S

```



Expanding The MVME201 To 1 Megabyte

by Ray Robinson
 Speech Research Centre
 Macquarie University
 North Ryde 2113
 NSW Australia

INTRODUCTION

The MVME200 is a VME bus 64k byte memory card made by Motorola. The MVME201 is the same card, but with 256k byte capacity, due to 64Kx1 DRAMS (Dynamic RAMS) being used instead of 16Kx1 DRAMS. My VME bus system needed more memory, so I upgraded the card to 1M byte by using 256Kx1 DRAMS. Here's how I did it. I call it the MVME201-1.

ADDRESS

The memory is arranged physically as 2 banks of 18 chips each (36 total), giving a 16 bit word and 2 bits of parity.

These 2 banks are arranged as 4 pages of memory 16 bits wide and individually addressable by 4 base address patch areas. The size of the page is set by the DRAMS used, 16K for 4116 (16Kx1), 64K for 4164 (64Kx1), and 256K for 41256 chips (256Kx1).

To modify the base address selection for 256K pages, add eight 10K resistors to the gates U45, U51, U55, and U59 on the

Figure 5-2 sheet 4 of the MVME200/201 users manual. Also see Diagram 1 (below).

REFRESH

The 256Kx1 DRAMS require identical refresh to the 64Kx1 DRAMS and so no modifications are required.

MULTIPLEXING

The MVME200 multiplexes 14 address lines to 7 for the 16Kx1 DRAMS. The MVME201 multiplexes 16 address lines to 8 for the 64Kx1 DRAMS. For the 256Kx1 DRAMS, we need 18 address lines multiplexed to 9. To add the mux for MA8 (the 9th address line to the 256Kx1 DRAMS), I used 3 spare gates and added 2 resistors.

The address lines LA16 and LA17 are gated with signal 100A and 100A* (an inverted 100A signal), by U80 and U81. U81 needs a 1K pullup resistor. The outputs from these 2 gates go to U69 and then through a 22 ohm matching resistor to the MA8 address line on the DRAMS (pin 1 or called VBB on 16Kx1 DRAMS). See Diagram 2 below. The signals 100A and 100A* are found on Figure 5-2 sheet 6 of the MVME200/201 users manual. The address lines LA16 and LA17 are on sheet 5. The destination for MA8 is on sheets 2, 8, and 9.

PROCEDURE

Remove 36 DRAMS. I added the 8 address pullup resistors to U45, U51, U55, and U59, by neatly soldering them on the component side of the board, from the appropriate pin to pin 16 (VCC) of the same chip. I did the same for the pullup resistor on U81 in the new mux. The spare gates on U80, U81, and U69 were checked with a multimeter to find out which pins were earthed. These were cut and bent under the chip as in Diagram 3 and checked again for any short circuits. Some black wirewrap wire was threaded neatly under chips and soldered directly to the pins of the gates, again on the component side of the board. One end of the 22 ohm matching resistor was soldered to the jumper W4 which is located near the front panel.

Add eighteen 256Kx1 DRAMS (150ns) to U1, U6, U11, U13, U18, U20, U24, U26, U31, U36, U38, U42, U46, U48, U52, U56, U60, and U62. They are \$7 each in Australia.

PATCHING

Ensure the patches W5 and W2 are in, and W3, R6, W4, and W1 are open (Figure 5-2 sheet 2 MVME200/201 Users Manual). These configure the DRAMS and are located near the front panel. The 22 ohm resistor from the new mux (MA8) goes to the junction of R6 and W4.

The 4 memory pages are set with patches J2, J3, J4, and J5. Diagram 4 shows J2 patched for a base address of 000000 HEX and J3 for 040000 HEX. The other 2 pages (set by J4 and J5) are shown disabled. After testing, the extra 1/2 megebyte can be plugged in and enabled.

The other patches should remain unchanged. They are (as factory set) J1, J7, and J8 connected, end J6 open.

ERRORS

There are bypass capacitors on the old VBB line, now MA8 address line. They are C5, C14, C15, C25, C27, C38, C47, C54, and C61. Find these and remove them. Not all may have been fitted. Figure 5-2 sheet 2 of the MVME200/201 Users Manual wrongly shows all bypass caps on the +5 volt line.

Figure 5-2 sheet 5 of the manual shows wrong pin labelling on one of the mux chips (U29). It should be U29 pin 3, LA08 and U29 pin 6, LA09 and U29 pin 10, LA10 and finally U29 pin 13, LA11.

TESTING

The board was tested in my system, with the MVME101BUG monitor commands BI to initialise the RAM and BT to block test it from 10000 to 7FFFE. If the new mux (MA8 address line) is not working properly you will find you have only 64K of RAM with images throughout this range. If so, look for one of those bypass caps on the MA8 address line. The address space 0 to FFFF is used onboard by the MVME101 CPU and so the RAM on this card in that area is unused.

If all went well, you now have 1/2 a megebyte of RAM up to 80000 HEX. You can now boot VERSADOS and run SYSGEN and ASSEMBLER. I chose not to fit the other 1/2 megebyte of RAM until I need it. All you have to do is fit the chips and set the base address with J4 and J5 and the whole 1 megebyte is ready.

end

DIAGRAM 1

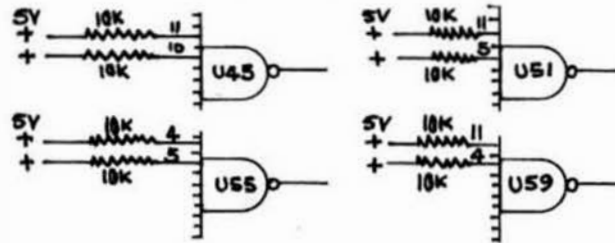


DIAGRAM 2

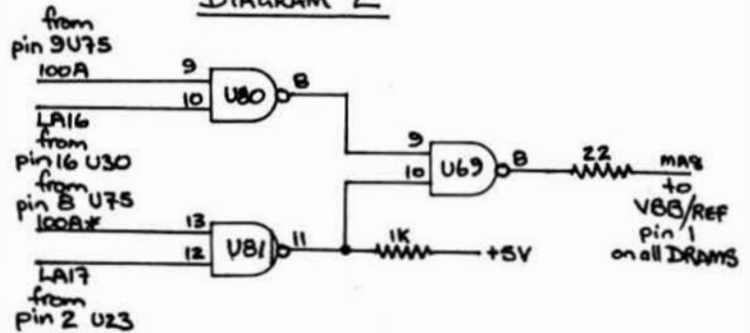


DIAGRAM 3

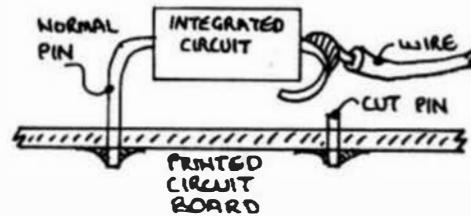
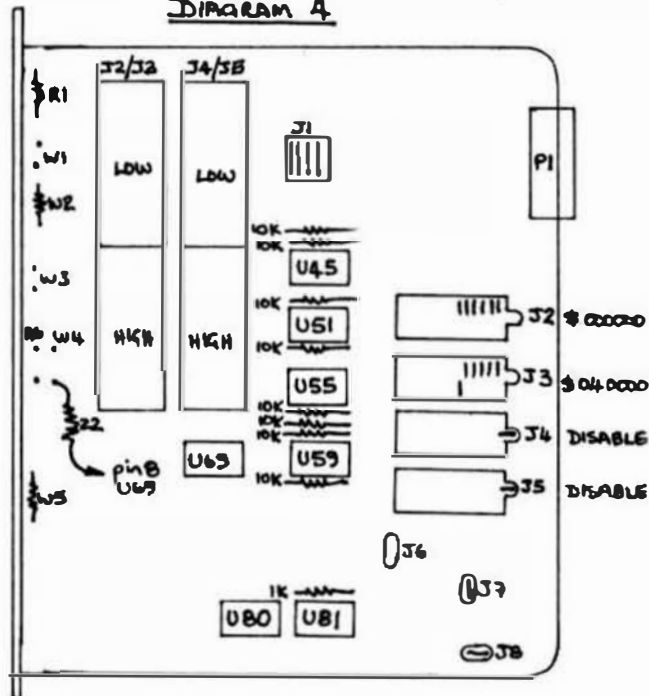


DIAGRAM 4



By: Troy Brumley
8552 Huddleston Drive
Cincinnati OH 45236

Using FLEX/Star-DOS

WHERE DID WE LEAVE OFF?

Try as I may, I just can't seem to get these articles out any faster than every other month at best. I am involved in several major projects at work so I'm pretty tired of computers when I get home. This has happened to me before, and I know it will pass, but in the meantime I won't be able to get these articles out monthly. Please bear with me.

As I recall, I promised to cover CoCo printer driver customization and I/O redirection in FLEX. I'll get to printer driver customization this month, but because of some other things I need to cover I'll have to ask you to wait for information on I/O redirection until the next article.

MY OBJECTIVES

If you've been reading Ron Anderson's FLEX USERS NOTES (you should be) you know that he is starting to review some basic FLEX concepts. We are working independently, and we are writing for separate audiences. From what he has been covering in the past few months I think that anyone who needs to learn how to program under FLEX should study his columns (I do).

The main group of people I am trying to help are new FLEX users who are somewhat familiar with RSDOS or another microcomputer system. I also hope to cover enough information to help prospective Advanced Operating System buyers choose between FLEX and OS/9. I don't have OS/9 yet, so I can't really compare them, but I can present FLEX for evaluation.

If you have any questions about FLEX, drop me a line at the address listed at the front of this article. If you want a personal answer, send a stamped and self addressed envelope. I can't promise quick turn around on letters that want personal responses, but I'll try to cover questions I get in these articles as soon as possible.

WHAT TO BUY WITH FLEX

I was talking with a friend of mine recently, and we were comparing notes on our computer systems. He has a CoCo, but he does not use FLEX, Star-DOS, or OS/9. He wondered why I bothered with FLEX, and what I could do with FLEX that he couldn't do with RSDOS. I showed him some of the things I do now, and some of the languages available under FLEX. My friend is a something of a language freak, so he became much more interested after I showed him some PL/9 listings in '68.

Because FLEX is a mature operating system with a wide variety of languages and utilities available to you. An excellent word processor (STYLOGRAPH) and spread-sheet (DYNACALC) are reasonably priced. Almost all FLEX software will run on your CoCo. You can use your CoCo/FLEX system to learn a new programming language, develop utilities or applications software using those languages, do word processing, accounting, keep track of data, and so on.

I use my system for word processing, record keeping (I do some contract programming), and hobby related programming. I have K-BASIC (an excellent compiler), and I've started several projects in K-BASIC (all of which are on hold, unfortunately). Since I've read so many good things about PL/9 in '68 I'll probably save up enough to buy PL/9 for my next language.

As you can see, I am able to do everything I need with my little old CoCo (now that I've got FLEX).

FLEX and Star-DOS are both sold in simple packages. The operating system and the Utility Command Set (or UCS, I'll explain that soon) are about all you get. The CoCo versions of FLEX and Star-DOS include some additional utilities to allow you to copy files to and from your RSDOS disks.

If you plan on tinkering with FLEX, or doing any serious amount of programming, you will probably want an editor and assembler. FLEX can be purchased bundled with an editor and assembler. That's the FLEX CoCo SR. package that GPI sells. It's what I use, and I don't regret spending the extra money to get the editor and assembler.

You have to decide what you want to do with your computer before you buy FLEX. I can't think of too many things that I can't do with FLEX, but I know that there are a few things that I can't do with RSDOS. The way I see it, those of us with FLEX on our CoCos live in the best of worlds. Not only do we have access to extensive programming and applications software libraries (under both systems), we also have one of the nicest game playing computers around. No one with a GIMIX is flying Tom Mix's P-51 unless they also have a CoCo! Their GIMIX may be faster than our CoCo, but it doesn't have the graphics we do.

THE UTILITY COMMAND SET

This section is a summary of the FLEX Utility Command Set (UCS). The UCS is a standard set of programs to handle disk file management functions.

The standard commands in the UCS that TSC provides and their RSDOS equivalents are

FLEX	RSDOS
APPEND	-
ASN	DRIVE
BUILD	-
CAT	DIR
COPY	COPY
DATE	-
DELETE	KILL
EXEC	-
I	-
JUMP	EXEC
*LINK	-
LIST	-
NEWDISK	OSKINI
O	-
P	-
**PRINT	-
PROT	-
**QCHECK	-
RENAME	RENAME
SAVE	SAVEN
STARTUP	-
TTYSET	-
VERIFY	VERIFY
VERSION	-
XOUT	-

*LINK is called MAKESYS in the F-MATE FLEX conversion.
**PRINT and QCHECK are included with standard FLEX, but they don't work on most computers, so they aren't available with the F-MATE conversion.

Obviously the UCS has several commands that have no real equivalent in RSDOS. Most of those commands that are unique to FLEX will be covered in later articles, since they relate to topics such as I/O redirection, terminal configuration, and debugging.

All of the commands in the UCS are DISK RESIDENT. This means that the must reside on the SYSTEM DRIVE (I'll explain that in the next article). Every time you use a command from the UCS it is loaded into a special section of memory in FLEX for execution. This allows the UCS to be expanded (there are several commands that come with F-MATE FLEX as part of the UCS that aren't available on other systems) and modified (recent issues of '68 have presented enhanced versions of the CAT command.

Because the commands must be loaded from disk every time they are used there is a slight delay in their execution. This is made up for by the substantial savings in memory. FLEX leaves 48K of memory available for user programs. RSDOS leaves you with less than 32K.

This dynamic loading of utilities is not unique to FLEX. OS-9 loads commands into memory unless they have already been loaded in. OS-9 leaves those commands in memory until you ask him to remove them. This can cause memory to get cluttered up rapidly. Both systems are a compromise for 8-bit computers, but both actually work very well. FLEX is certainly easier for me to use than MS-DOS on my PC at work.

There are a couple of 128K upgrade kits available that allow one 64K bank of memory to be used as the standard 64K memory of the CoCo, and the other 128K bank to be used as a RAM DISK. This allows commonly used utilities and data files to be loaded into that 64K. When they are needed, they are loaded into memory from memory. This is done at incredible speed. Both FLEX and OS-9 level I benefit greatly from the use of a RAM DISK. If I ever get one, I'll let you know just how fast it really is.

USING A NON-STANDARD PRINTER

FLEX will let you define your printer one time, and it will remember how your printer works even after you turn off your computer. This is great for people like me who have non-standard printers. I kept forgetting to change the baud rate in RSDOS, (3 POKE instructions, I finally taped them to my monitor!), which wasted paper and drove me crazy.

Once I got FLEX I discovered that I would never have to POKE again, I'd just have to change the standard printer driver, ONCE!

A printer driver is a machine language program that hooks itself into the printer output routines of another program, such as the FLEX operating system, insuring that characters sent to the printer are usable by the printer.

The standard FLEX printer driver is named PRINT.SYS. Each computer/printer configuration running FLEX requires it's own PRINT.SYS driver. The code in PRINT.SYS is loaded into standard memory locations, and any time a character is sent to the printer, it is routed thru the PRINT.SYS code.

Those of you who have a non-Tandy printer will probably need to modify the PRINT.SYS driver. The driver supplied with CoCo FLEX is designed for printers that are connected to the CoCo thru the SERIAL I/O plug on the back of the CoCo. If you have a parallel printer, but have it connected to the CoCo with a serial to parallel converter you can use this driver. If you have a parallel printer interface that plugs into a Multi Pak Interface or a Y-Cable along with your disk controller you are going to have to work a little harder. You will either need to contact the maker of the interface to see if he has a FLEX printer driver, or get enough information to write your own.

Since I am using an OKIDATA ML 82A which has a RS-232 interface that operates at up to 1200 baud, I needed to change the PRINT.SYS driver that comes with the FLEX/CoCo package. For me the change was simple, but I am an experienced assembly language programmer. The change I describe here may not be 100% accurate for other FLEX systems, so if you have or buy another version, don't expect this to work the first time. The concepts are the same, but the details may be slightly different.

PRINT.SYS is a binary file. It is the output file created by assembling PRINTSYS.TXT, which should be included on your distribution disk. There are only two possible changes to make. The first is to change the baud rate (character transmission speed), and the second is to change the number of bits per character.

When you edit the PRINTSYS.TXT file, find the statement that contains 'ORG \$CCCO'. This tells the assembler to place any machine code generated at address \$CCCO. If you read your FLEX manual, you will discover that \$CCCO is the standard address for any printer initialization code in FLEX. Here we will set the baud rate and bits per character for the serial output routines that come with FLEX and are used by the standard printer output routine in FLEX.

The first two instructions after the ORG should look like this:

```
LDX #0057
STX $E216
```

There may be some comments on those lines, but they should still contain that data. The 0057 is the value that controls the print speed. This is the default for 600 baud (which is the CoCo's standard speed under RSDOS). To change that to print at 1200 baud, just change the 0057 to 0029.

The values for several common printer baud rates are:

BAUD	VALUE
110	\$01CA
300	\$00BE
600	\$0057
1200	\$0029
2400	\$0012
9600	\$0001 ***See Note***

Please note that I know of no printers that could be economically connected to a CoCo that can print characters fast enough to make the 9600 baud rate practical. I have seen this setting used in RSDOS with parallel printer interfaces, but the printers don't print 960 characters per second, so that setting doesn't do all that much good. This setting is not documented in the FLEX CONVERSION documentation from CPI. I have included it for those of you who are used to running your printers thru a parallel converter at 9600 baud. I DON'T KNOW IF IT WILL WORK. If you have a printer buffer this setting may help you, if it works.

The next two instructions should be:

```
LDA #8
STA $E215
```

These instructions set the number of bits per character.

The ASCII codes used by your CoCo (and all microcomputers that I know of) allow only 7 bit characters. The eighth bit is frequently ignored when it is transmitted from a computer to a modem or printer. Many modern printers allow the eighth bit to be used to generate special graphics characters. If your printer does so, leave these instructions alone. If you have an older printer, it may only accept 7 bits of data. The eighth bit will only confuse it, causing you to get garbage on your listings. If that is the case, change the #8 to a #7.

Once you have changed the PRINTSYS.TXT file you can assemble it. If you don't get any errors you can use COPY (if you have two drives) and RENAME (any configuration) to make your new driver accessible to FLEX.

For example:

```
COPY I O PRINTSYS.BIN
RENAME O.PRINT.SYS O.PRINTSYS.OLD
RENAME O.PRINTSYS.BIN O.PRINT.SYS
```

The first line moves the assembler output to the system drive. If you don't have two drives, your output file is already on the system drive. The second line saves the original driver, and the third line enables the new driver.

If you have made it this far, turn on your printer and any interfaces you need, and enter the command 'P CAT'. This will send a disk directory listing to the printer. If it worked, everything is OK. If the listing is garbled, review your changes and try again.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

That's enough for one article. Next time I'll explain SYSTEM and WORK drive assignments, and I/O redirection (that's the I, U, and P commands). Until then, keep on computing FLExibly.

PRESS INFORMATION

EDITORIAL CONTACTS: ED PILESTWOOD
(602) 594 4959

READER CONTACTS: MOTOROLA SEMICONDUCTOR
MARKETING HOT LINE
(800) 821 8274

MOTOROLA MICROSYSTEMS REPLACES CERTAIN DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT SYSTEMS PRODUCTS WITH RECENTLY INTRODUCED INSTRUMENTATION PRODUCTS

September 19, 1985, Phoenix, AZ... Due to the wide acceptance of its more recently introduced instrumentation product lines, Motorola Microsystems has announced its intention to end production of certain items in its older 8-bit and 16-bit development support systems.

Products being terminated are:

1. EXORmac 16-bit Development Host and Peripherals
2. EXORmac 8-bit Development Host, Peripherals, and Plug-in Expansion Boards
3. EXORmac 8-bit Development Host and Peripherals
4. VMC 6802 Microcomputer System and Peripherals
5. Certain models of Hardware Development Stations, Bus State Analyzer Personnel Modules, Evaluation Modules, and System Analyzers
6. All associated software products for the above lines.

Customers wishing to place final orders for these discontinued products should consult their local Motorola Semiconductor sales office for details on the exact part numbers being terminated. Final orders for discontinued products will be accepted until 31 December 1985, with delivery required by 31 March 1986.



Innovative systems
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CoCo User Notes

by Carl Mann
30 Warren Ave.
Amesbury, MA 01913

CoCo Disk Systems, Part One
or
What Put's the "In" in "Spin"

It had to happen sooner or later. Everything I intended to write up in this month's column went wrong! The SOFTWARE has got BUGS. The HARDWARE has got BUGS. The NETWARE even has BUGS. It's the summer heat in which I'm writing. Little BUGS are actually hatching out of the office carpet!

Oh, well... By the time I see this in print, it'll all be

over. In the meantime, here's Plan B. I've been saving it back for just such a time as this- NOT because it's an inferior product... but because it's so HOT a topic, I had to let it sizzle for a good while before presenting it.

Friends, the subject today is The Disk Drive. Not just ANY Disk Drive, mind you... but rather a SPECIFIC Disk Drive. Maybe (even) a Disk Drive for YOUR CoCo! Of course, there are plenty of reasons to stay away from disk drives for CoCo. Reasons like money... and the joy of listening to endless hours of 1500 baud program tapes... and money... and the straightforward qualities that only a cassette possesses... and money... and money...

Let's take a good look at the money angle. Maybe there exists more than the price of the disk system. Maybe there's another side to the question altogether: to wit, the price of your TIME. Let's face it, if the price of our time were of no importance, we'd ALL be tying knots in string to count our cattle. (That's just the tip of the cultural iceberg.) Don't misunderstand me: there are MANY times when slow is definitely superior. I think you'll agree with me that the time required for a program to load, or for CoCo to search through 90 minutes worth of tape for three or four bytes of critical data AIN'T one of 'em! Even if one's only use for CoCo is to play games (an important activity in some situations, I've learned... yes, friends, I may be gaining in softness what I lack in foolishness!)

Oh, yes. Disk systems for CoCo. As easily done as said, actually. But (for the sake of us folks that don't chase flying bit-buckets for fun, and wouldn't wish to be intently quizzed by a rabid tech-weenie on the finer points of peripheral access overhead time in relation to overall mapped register concatenation coordinates) let's back up a little. What goes on in a disk-based CoCo, anyway?

Not much different, at least on the surface. The biggest difference is that whereas the cassette tape moves in slow motion (1 and 7/8 inches per second) and only moves from left to right, the disk goes around and around at the speed of 300 RPM. Now let's see... floppy disks are 5 1/4 inches in diameter. That times pi is a circumference of about 16 1/2 inches. Let's back that off to 15 inches in deference to the spirit of American Conservation. (Also, and more importantly, because doing so is closer to the truth. You'll see why in a minute.) Now, 300 times 15, divided by 60 seconds in a minute... why, that's exactly 75 inches per second! That's a (75 divided by 1.875) exactly 40 times faster than cassette. Pretty good, no?

What this means is that the BASIC program that took 40 seconds to load from tape will be up and running from disk in about a second or so. A machine-language routine that loaded from cassette in ten seconds takes less than 1/2 second from disk. And another thing: the data may not be on the cassette, but CoCo doesn't know that. Misspell a filename, or forget which tape is which, and CoCo will stare at you as long as you care to stare back. With disk, all the files are organized in a "directory", like in a little telephone book. Each directory entry (which is automatically generated by the Disk Controller Module) tells CoCo (and you, if you care to learn to read it) exactly where on the disk to look for each file (read "thing") that CoCo put on the disk. (What YOU put on the disk may be different. Coca-Cola and cigarette ashes do not a happy disk make.) To see what is on a disk (I hope you and CoCo always agree on this point) you just type DIR <enter> from BASIC. CoCo does the rest in nothing flat.

In fact, adding a disk system to CoCo adds about 35 new keywords to Extended Color BASIC. (Unfortunately, you MUST have Extended BASIC before Disk Basic will work.) These new keywords enable the savvy programmer to do literally anything that could be imagined with the information stored (or to be stored) on the disk. By the way, that's about 250K per side of the disk. We'll look at

that later, too.) Let me tel you a secret. I have just begun to explore what all those keywords can do for me on my own, and I've had disk for more than two years. Why so long a wait? It comes back to time. There is so much EXCELLENT disk software out there that I prefer to let a professional programmer sell me a "canned" program with which to do my job. I can always diddle with it afterwards (and almost always do) to add my personal touch of convenience, finesse, or ego gratification. (That's another thing about disk. You can add your own name and such in the appropriate place of a commercial program- even a machine-language program- once you learn to use a "disk zapper" package. More on those later, too.)

Would you like to learn more about exactly how a disk system works? I could fill up an awful lot of space explaining it all, but (for the sake of the uninterested) I would rather point to The Source Of It All. Those of us who ARE interested are invited to write or call:

Percom Data, Incorporated
11220 Pagemill Road
Dallas, Tx 75243
(214) 340-7081

Ask for the book, "Inside Personal Computer Disk Storage Systems". It's free. It's also the very best explanation of what generally goes on in there that I have ever seen. I have lent my copy to people who didn't know a watt from a megacycle from a screwdriver, and have received profuse thanks in return. Try it on for size!

Until next time,

Carl

CEDRIC

A few weeks ago I received a copy of Cedric "A Screen-Oriented Editor for FLEX". The author, Dr. M. J. Kendall asked if I would review it. I wrote a letter back with my first impressions of the editor as it then stood, and indicated that I would review it, but that I was working on an editor of my own, and I thought it might be best to get an impartial reviewer. Mike Randall wrote back that he thought I could and would be impartial and fair and that he would still like me to review it, so here goes.

Cedric, according to the manual, "is a screen-oriented text editor specifically designed for software development, rather than word-processing. That is not to say however that Cedric cannot be used to prepare text...". It is then pointed out that the manual was prepared using Cedric. The manual indicates that the design goals were speed and flexibility.

The editor is written in assembler, a fact that by itself does not guarantee speed, but in the hands of a capable programmer, assembler code will always beat compiled code. In this case, the programmer is very capable. The whole editor occupies less than 6K of memory. Mike Randall points out that he was able to edit the entire editor source code (35 pages) and still have 14,400 bytes of memory free! The text buffer holds about 165 sectors of text. Cedric has a very nice feature in that if multiple editing functions that require updating the screen are performed, any previous screen update that is in process is aborted to do the new function. This speeds up the editing process considerably, and is a feature you would quickly come to value.

The price paid for a small code size and large edit buffer is a rather austere set of features. However for editing programs most of the time and occasional text, that price might be just right for many users. Cedric is a "single mode" editor. It is always in what most editors call the "insert" mode. That is, text entered is always inserted at the cursor. If the cursor is in the middle of a line, the text to the right is pushed along to make

room for the inserted text.

One clever feature of Cedric is the availability of a menu to help you learn many of the commands. The menu commands include moving to the top or bottom of the file, getting an input file, writing an output file, writing a marked block to a disk, clearing the edit buffer for editing of another file, search for a string, replace a string with another, tab to next word, up and down screen, define a macro, repeat, and tab viewing and setting. If you need the menu to see what key to use, type ESC ESC and the menu appears. The menu tells you that T will get you to the top of the file so you type T and the first part of the file appears on the screen. If you already know that you want the T, you just type ESC T and you go to the top of the file.

The menu commands are all two-key combinations, all preceded by ESC. The single key operations are all control functions, and these must be learned by reference to the manual. Each of these is described by a two letter mnemonic such as CB for cursor back, EL for erase line, etc. Though Cedric comes with a set of pre-defined keys for these functions, a configuration file allows you to redefine the keys as desired. Thus you can set up the keyboard to be much like WordStar, Stylograph, or any other editor the key assignments of which you have memorized or become used to. These keys allow cursor motions in four directions, express cursor motions to beginning and end of current line, delete character, delete word, delete line. They allow search forward and back for a string defined by means of an ESC command, search and replace, and global replace.

There are a few well chosen convenience features. One is a counter that may be zeroed, and incremented by means of control keys. There is a command to place the value of the counter at the cursor position. This might be a nice feature for sequential label generation when programming in assembler. In a subroutine called GETA, for example, you could use labels GETA1, GETA2 etc. This counter might also be used for page numbering or illustration numbers (figure nn) in text editing.

There is no limit on line length. Entering a line longer than the screen width will eventually cause the screen to move to the right, following your entry, as beginnings of lines disappear off the left of the screen.

The macro definition feature allows you to define a macro (a series of edit command keystrokes) that can be done by means of one key. There are two "permanent" macros you can define in the configuration file. There are other control functions for tabbing, marking a block of text (which appears in reverse video as you mark it) down to the character level. Portions of text may be "cut" to a "paste buffer" and then "pasted" to somewhere else in the text.

This editor contains all the features necessary to edit a program file painlessly, and many of the desirable features of larger editors. It might be worth a quick rundown of what it doesn't have. You cannot edit a file bigger than the edit buffer, which generally is not a handicap since a program that large would usually be broken into smaller modules anyway. There is no way to set a "bell column" for a beep from the terminal, and there is no automatic "wordwrap" to the next line when a certain column is exceeded. Of course this is no handicap whatever for writing programs. Cedric has no capability to format paragraphs, but of course there are several available text processors that will do that very nicely for you.

Cedric works completely as advertised. There are no apparent bugs. The global replace function works perfectly and would have to take the all time prize for being extremely fast.

Reviewed by: Ron Anderson

Editor's Note: Since Ron did this review, during our "beta" test period, there have been several improvements to this item.

First, a very nice and easy to use terminal configuration program has been added. Just type the necessary keys - presto it is done!. Also some additional functions have been added. All in all, a very nice package, simple but powerful.

A **SPECIAL** introductory price of only \$69.95 is a limited time deal from S. E. MEDIA.

Secondly, our policy on documentation is in order. Since we strive to bring you **good, low cost software**, we cut only those corners that make sense. NEVER to compromise quality. Thus, we will be quoting a new policy, starting this month, on documentation.

1. If you want the documentation printed out, it will be an additional \$25.00, added to the advertised price. Labor, paper, etc. prices gone sky-high!

2. If you can print out the documentation yourself, you save \$25.00 dollars.

3. Regardless of 1. or 2. above, the documentation will always be included on the disk. It just cost you more for us to print it out, rather than you. So again, we give you a choice!

NOTE: The above applies for S.E. MEDIA license software ONLY! All others have manufacturer's documentation.

DMW

SOLVE

Symbolic Object/Logic Verification & Examination
A Super OS-9 Deluxe Debugger, Assembler and Disassembler

It has been a constant search by S. E. MEDIA to find and feature solid, economical software. We spend a lot of effort "beta testing" and consulting to insure you the very best product possible, for the price. And speaking about the price, well, this particular piece of software is, as is most all S. E. MEDIA offerings, a real bargain. It should sell for at least twice the special introduction price of \$69.95. With source, in assembler, \$89.95. Again we are trusting you not to compromise our faith that you will not distribute copies to anyone who has not paid their fair share. If the copyrights are violated, WE WILL ALL BE LOSERS! However, I attempt to make source available for YOUR convenience. Please don't let me down on this! I have had to really "hard sell" to get authors to furnish source at a reasonable price.

SOLVE is the most complete debugger we have ever seen, and we have had several offered for merchandising. I, Peter Dibble and others have used it for over 9 months now, and it is solid! It is simple to use and complete. It is one of the finer software products we sell. I trust you OS-9 users appreciate the effort CPI, 68 Micro Journal and especially S. E. MEDIA, has gone through to bring you offerings such as SOLVE. Normally I do not get too excited about new products, but this is an exception. It has made my development efforts decline to S I M P L E!

Overview

SOLVE has a group of monitor commands that function at the lowest level. At the next level it contains a full assembler and disassemble, both of which allow symbolic operations. SOLVE allows single stepping a program, executing it in real-time with breakpoints, or simulating its operation with a full deck of conditional traps for

tracking down those elusive bugs. All commands allow symbols and/or expressions for the component parameters they expect. Sub-routine nesting is tracked at all levels and levels may be viewed in real time, simulation (about 10th speed or repositioned to any level required, (default 32 levels). Register dumps are available at any point of the session, including sub-routine nesting levels and values pointed to by the 16 bit registers. See sample below.

The disassembler will disassemble any portion of the module being acted on, at any point of the session. The assembler may be invoked at any point of the module at any point of the session also, including the memory change function. Code can be expanded by this method.

Commands

Commands are in six sections:

1. Monitor commands
2. Assembler commands
3. Disassemble commands
4. Environmental commands (breakpoints, etc.)
5. Execution commands (trace, simulate, real-time, etc.)
6. Other Miscellaneous commands and functions (below)

Commands consist generally of expressions. Expressions are evaluated left to right with no precedence. Expression results are 16 bit values, either signed or unsigned depending on the interpretation desired.

Math operators are + - * /, and may be used in symbols and/or expressions.

Constants are decimal, binary or hexadecimal numbers, the PC symbol % or single `a) or double ("HELLO) quoted characters.

```
"AB = $4142
"ab = $b162
`A = $41
```

There are two "base modifiers". The `l' preceding any constant or symbol causes the current program base (if any) to be added to that component of the expression.

!0 points to the base of the program module.

The symbol `<' causes the current data base to be added to that component of the expression. Two commands ! and < allow setting these bases.

<0 points to the base of the data area.

Symbols may be strings of up to 32 characters in length. And may be pre-defined (disk file), on-line defined or written in SOLVE and written out to disk.

Examples of expressions are:

```
4+6/12-#
label*12-#1011
&23-44+label/*/&7
```

= current PC value
% = binary number
& = decimal number
0/# = hexadecimal (either is ok)

Errors are evaluated and reported by: -> Eval err.

SOLVE includes the capability to load symbol files from disk and write others out to disk, making all aspects of a debugging session much less painful.

Commands

Please note in the example shown at end of this article the completeness of the displays from these

commands. This IS NOT a 'blind' debugger!

M - Display memory. memory contents are shown in both hexadecimal and ASCII format. Non-ASCII values are shown as `.`

C - Examine and Change memory. The address and its contents are both shown in hexadecimal and ASCII. `.` indicates non-ASCII value.

Example:

```
DBG: C $e400 <cr> *Start at this address
E400 8D . ?44 <cr> *We entered one space and a 44
E401 06 . " HELLO <cr> *Here we insert a string
E406 65 e $ 12 34 7734 <cr> *Here a series expression
E40A 3A : + <cr> *Just go one more byte
E40B 53 S :$e400 <cr> *Go to this hex address
E400 44 D <cr> *Yep it changed
```

These features alone make this a very powerful tool. The ability to expand code, insert series of expressions, etc., puts it far above most all other development tools!

+ moves to next sequential address, - moves back one, = followed by an expression, goes to the new expression address (expression may be compounded) Enter a <space> and SOLVE outputs a ? and awaits an expression. Results are truncated to 8 bits, and next address is listed on the screen. Entering " allows entering a ASCII string, terminated by a <cr>. Entering \$ allows entering a series of expressions. Expressions are evaluated to 16 bits if the expression is >\$?F, otherwise an 8 bit value is stored. Terminated by a <cr>. Talk about power!

F - fills memory from expression1 to expression2 with the value of expression3.

7 - searches for bytes or strings of bytes of code or ASCII. Again Expression1/2/3, as above.

Example:

```
7111 2222,12 34 *SINKING<cr>
73e400,$3214,00<cr>
```

All addresses of exact matches are listed to the screen, 10 addresses to a line.

```
E456 23FD F5C2, etc.
```

X - Transfer memory, again expression1/2/3 as above. Bytes from exp1 through exp2 inclusive are copied to begin at exp3. SOLVE properly handles the case where exp3 lies between exp1 and exp2.

= - calculate expression. The value of exp is calculated and listed in both hexadecimal and decimal. The results is an unsigned number in the range of 0 through 65535 decimal.

Example:

```
=$12+21101*SYMBOL
$0010 #00016
```

```
=10+symbol
$0015 #00021
```

(assuming symbol has value of 5 and current program base is \$10)

Assembler Mode

The assembler is invoked:

```
A [exp] <cr>
```

The assembler accepts all 6809 standard mnemonics and addressing modes. Expressions/symbols may be freely used.

The following pseudops are allowed.

```
org - change assembly origin
osy - OSY function call
del - deletes a particular symbol
kill - deletes all symbol table entries
equ - sets program label value
rn - set OSY function call value
is - sets literal label (cr is $d)
var - sets data variable.
read - reads a disk symbol file
write - writes a disk symbol file (all current symbols)
```

Example:

```
DBG:A $e400 <cr>
E400 start leax 1,x <cr>
E402 nop <cr>
E403 bsr $e410 <cr>
E407 bra start <cr>
```

DBG:

By the interleaving of assembler and disassembler modes, practically any program can be modified at a later date with understandable labels and symbols, provided the symbol table was previously saved. Beginning to see a portion of the power of SOLVE?

P print out symbol table. The label names, values and types are shown, in that order. Types are:

```
I = immediate
O = OSY function call
P = program label
D = data label
Example:
```

```
symbol: 7734 P
table 0001 D
f$ext: 0006 O
mask 007f I
```

The assembler looks and works just like the regular assembler you are probably used to. No funnies here. Just type it in, exit with a <cr> and your code is immediately assembled to the address specified, external or internal to your program. Error checking lets you know immediately if you miscued.

Disassembler Mode

This mode disassembles memory from 6809 object code to 6809 assembly source. If you have defined labels or symbols, they will be inserted at the proper places. Also a very nice feature of the disassembler is that for branches, the destination is shown by address - no taking off the shoes and socks to do some finger and toe counting here. All joking aside, this is a real great feature for PIC code disassembly.

The disassembler is very intelligent. For example note the small portion below:

```
flag is 4
value equ $7734
org $e400
lda 4
lbra $7734
```

disassembles as:

```
E400 lda $0004
E403 lbra value
```

The value `4` is not converted to `flag` since the `is` declaration makes it useable only in immediate-mode instructions. PCR instructions are shown with both the offset and the effective address. Unknown opcodes are shown with ????.

Programs or modules in OS9 that you have no source for may be linked to SOLVE and by the use of the disassembler, the Change function and assembler, completely customized new programs are easily generated, saved and 'verified', then used as any other program or module.

I don't know of any other one piece of software available for OS9 that does so much, so easily.

H - history function. SOLVE keeps a history trail (track) of the last 32 instructions executed as part of the 'T' trace mode or the 'S' simulate commands. It is listed as a disassembly listing.

V - define memory variables. The V command allows the contents of one or two 16 bit locations in memory to be displayed with the register dump feature. Useful for tracking the changes in program pointers or counters.

: - examine/change the User stack. Valid registers are:

A B D CC DP X Y U S PC or PCR

See sample register dumps in sample session at end of this review.

B - set & display breakpoints. Up to 16 breakpoints may be active. Memory is not altered until the 'G' for go to and execute program command is invoked. Breakpoints, one, two, etc., or all can be removed with the 'K' command.

^ - print stack contents. Bytes are displayed two to a line.

@ - change current nest level. This allows bypassing long loops or portions of code accessed by jump or branch to sub-routine instructions. A time saving feature for portions of code not needing debugging (hopefully).

M - set maximum nest tracking level. Any value \$0 to \$FF is acceptable. However, for nest levels up to \$20 SOLVE keeps a special table to avoid the situation encountered by bypassing 'leas' type instructions. In case of loss of nesting level by SOLVE, the '@' command can straighten things out most times.

L - link to OS9 module. Performs a F\$LINK request on the module indicated. Then SOLVE branches to the 'C' command, at the address of the module header sync bytes (\$87CD). The program base value '!' is set to the start of the module header. The modules link count is increased by one. SOLVE stack contents are NOT altered.

E - prepare module for execution. First linking to the module listed. Then extracts the execution offset from the header and RAM requirements. The program base constant '!' is set to the start of the module header. Additional memory, if needed, is requested by SOLVE at this point. A stack is then set up for program execution. Stack can be manually set if desired, this is just a convenience.

T - Trace program (single-step). Begins execution at indicated exp. The program is executed one instruction at a time, then the registers are dumped (and some other information), pressing any key except the <cr> or keyboard abort or interrupt causes the next instruction to execute. Nesting information is updated and reported at each register dump. If the 16 nesting level is exceeded, then the program goes to real-time until the level falls below 16. If the limit is set to '0', then only the outer most level is traced.

G - Go to program. This start the real-time execution of the program, at the PC value in the user stack, or at 'exp' if given. Breakpoints are enabled for the G command only. Breakpoints can be freely moved, added or deleted, between G commands. G commands can be intermixed with S and T commands.

A special feature is that any time the program is running under the G command, a tap of any key will dump a 'snapshot' of the user stack, but the program is not stopped.

S - Simulate program (multi-step). This is one of SOLVE's most powerful features. It allows a program to execute at about 10% of normal speed. Traps are enabled by several user-changeable conditions.

Simulation uses the current user stack values. Breakpoints are disabled.

Simulation may be run in one of four different ways.

1. Starts at 'exp', which can be a symbol or address.
2. S alone simulates at the previous defined 'exp'.
3. Conditional exit conditions are set up for simulation. Example:

S [exp] ; condition [condition...condition] <cr>

4. Deletes all conditional expressions and simulates at the previous defined count. Exp is a 16 bit value.

SOLVE executes 'count' number of instructions or until a conditional becomes TRUE, whichever comes first. It then displays the condition (if one) that caused the stop, and the number of instructions actually completed. After the number is a disassembly of the next instruction to be executed, as well as a current register dump. Pressing any key except <cr> starts the next series of instructions to be executed.

There are nine types of simulation traps that can be defined. Also SOLVE traps on two additional conditions: nest level underflow and any OS9 F\$EXIT service request. All traps can be used together in any combination.

The traps are listed below. The character shown on the disassembly line to show the condition that caused the stop is the same as below that defines the condition. For 'F' the character is 'I' or 'X'.

1. F <ID> <exp1> <exp2> (or)
F <X> <exp1> <exp2>

Frame check:

Stop if PC is outside exp1 to exp2 (for I)
Stop if PC is within exp1 to exp2 (for X)

Only one I or X may be declared - not both.

2. @
Stop if current nest level is left.
3. M <exp>
Stop if <exp> nest level is exceeded.
4. <reg> <exp>
Stop if stack register 'reg' has value 'exp'.
5. M <exp1> <exp2>
Stop if byte at exp1 has value of exp2.
6. W <exp1> <exp2>
Stop if 16 bit contents at address exp1 and exp1+1 has value of exp2.
7. L <exp1> <exp2>
Stops if program passes through loops address exp1 the number of times specified in exp2, a 16 bit quantity.
8. R <exp>
Stops on any reference to address exp.
9. 0 Stop after any OS9 function call.

4490 Yukon Ct. #2A
Wheatridge, CO 80033
October 2, 1985

Dear Mr. Williams,

I have been searching (with no success) for the address and subscription cost for DTACK Grounded. Would you or any of your readers have this information?

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Calvin Dodge

Calvin Dodge



Several customers have recently asked, "What makes STAR-DOS different from FLEX (a trademark of Technical Systems Consultants Inc.), or OS-9 (a trademark of Microware Inc.)?"

STAR-DOS is most similar to PLEX. Any program which runs with FLEX also runs with STAR-DOS, but better. At this time, we know of no programs which run with FLEX but do not run with STAR-DOS.

But there are also significant differences between STAR-DOS and FLEX. Here is a short summary:

1. STAR-DOS comes with many support programs which cost extra on other disk operating systems. There are, of course, the standard ones to let you load and save files, rename or delete programs, get a disk catalog etc. But there are also others which let you list file addresses, change prompts, change or update dates, search files for text or binary data, sort disk directories by name or date, do selective copying or cataloging, recover damaged files, re-execute previously loaded programs, change the step rate of disk drives, and more.

2. For those systems which have a clock/calendar chip, STAR-DOS comes with the source code to add two extra functions. When STAR-DOS is initially booted, it will automatically get its date from the calendar chip. Furthermore, each time a file is saved to the disk, or a random file is updated, STAR-DOS will put the current date and time in the directory. This feature is important in several ways. First of all, it enables you to differentiate between similar files having the same date - you can tell what order they were saved in. We also provide a sorted catalog program called TCAT which shows the disk directory with the latest files on top. The most recent files you worked on will always be shown first in the directory listing. This ability is of tremendous help, especially to users of large disks, because it helps you find the latest files on the disk, and keeps older files from cluttering up the directory listing. Everything needed to do this is included with STAR-DOS.

3. For those systems which have extra memory, STAR-DOS comes with the source code to add either a RAM disk or disk cache. For example, with extra memory (cheap at today's prices) you can have 960K of RAM disk which will provide lightning-fast response - extended Basic loads and executes in way under one second. Everything needed to do this is included with STAR-DOS.

4. For really large systems, STAR-DOS allows you to have up to ten drives, although this does require that the disk controller(s) be capable of more than four drives, and that the disk drivers also be able to handle more drives. But even without extra drives, this means that you can have four real drives plus a RAM disk. Simply number the RAM disk as drive 41.

5. We provide other utilities for the serious user. For example, one program provides prints the drive, track, and sector numbers each time STAR-DOS accesses any disk. This provides a running record of what is happening at all times. Invaluable for the person developing new programs.

6. In some areas, STAR-DOS is substantially faster than FLEX. For example, loading time from Winchester or RAM disks is much faster (load time from floppy disks is not affected because the disk speed is the limiting factor there). Some random file operations are also much faster. For example, a test program we ran in Extended Basic to read 60 elements out of a 4000-element virtual array took 46 seconds with FLEX (with constant disk head movement), and only 15 seconds with STAR-DOS.

7. Much more significant, we have gone to extremes to make sure that STAR-DOS does not make errors. Here are just a few examples:

a. If you accidentally switch disks while a file is open for writing on the disk, any disk operating system (including STAR-DOS and FLEX) will clobber the disk. But STAR-DOS has a unique feature - it prints an error message telling you what has happened and gives you a chance to recover before further damage is done.

b. If you switch disks on a drive while there is a file open on any other drive (even though there is no file open on the disk being switched), FLEX will clobber the disk. STAR-DOS will not!

c. When a random file program exceeds the size of the random file map, FLEX will clobber the disk, STAR-DOS will not!

d. When an old random file is updated, STAR-DOS changes its date and time to show that it has been modified. FLEX keeps the old date.

e. When a program is loaded from a disk, or when the 'print error' routine is called to report an error, FLEX erases parts of the current user file control block. STAR-DOS does not!

f. When you try to access a random record which is beyond the end of an existing random file, FLEX simply returns an error message. STAR-DOS actually gives you the option of extending the file to include the desired record.

8. Perhaps most important of all, we fully support STAR-DOS and listen to our customers! When we first introduced STAR-DOS, customers reported some bugs and we fixed them. When some incompatibilities were found between STAR-DOS and existing software, we fixed them. When customers requested the ability to extend existing random files, we put it in. When a recent customer suggested that we add pipes, we added the IMPPIPE and OUTPIPE commands. When a customer didn't like our error messages, we added user-changeable error texts. When a foreign licensee asked for permission to translate all of STAR-DOS into French, we gladly gave it. When one young customer asked that we make the boot process a bit more friendly, we even added the word 'thank you' to the signon message.

In short, we support STAR-DOS and we support you. Even now, as we prepare our STAR-DOS for 68000 / 48000 / 68020 computers, our goal is still to make STAR-DOS as simple and user-friendly as possible. Our 48K STAR-DOS will still be totally compatible with our 4809 STAR-DOS, will be able to interchange disks with it, and will be used in much the same way. We will not abandon STAR-DOS just because we are expanding to the 68000 world!

Computer Publishing Center
68' Micro Journal
5900 Cassandra Smith Road
Hixson, Tennessee 37343

Benchmark Electronics
P. O. Box # 278
Holt, Michigan
48842-0278

Dear Sirs:

Benchmark BBS has been online since October 5, 1984. We operate the system 24 hours each day at 8/M/1, 300 baud. The host computer is a Tandy Color Computer with four disk drives and originates from Lansing, Michigan. The telephone number is (517) 394-2447.

Long distance callers are requested to drop a letter or post card of confirmation to the address listed above in order to access the downloads. Callers must please indicate which computer they use in order to avoid disappointment. There is a GUEST access and an online application for local callers.

Sincerely,

John C. Evans Jr.
John Evans, SYSOP
Randy Pearson, Atari SYSOP
Ben Cranston, ML SYSOP

Dear Don,

I am another avid 68MJ reader who finds that your magazine just seems to be getting better all the time.

Perhaps I should say OUR magazine, being a Motorola micro fan. When reading your comments, I feel you're conversing with me personally.

By the way, I run a 6800 SS50 system (and badly want an MP09, used or preferably, bare board) and have recently started exploring cocoland.

Having been caught by the demise of Data Systems '68', being down the price of a couple of boards, I'd like to know if Robertson Electronics, of 1003 Warm Sands Dr., Albuquerque, NM 87123 are still selling their CLK68-1 Clock board as I haven't seen their ads for awhile.

Also on p52 of July's issue, a classified ad by a Gil Shattuck contained exactly what I want, s/h MP09 boards, clk board etc, but I hesitate because of the risk. Have you heard any complaints?

Yours Sincerely,
Steve Petschel

Editor's Note: Steve, as to the Data System boards I still hope that they will see the light of day again. I get calls, all the time, asking about these, and other kit/boards. We have that market cornered, but no one is willing to bet a few bucks on them. If we had more hands, I would be very tempted.

I believe that Robertson is still selling. We use their boards and they work fine.

As to the classifieds. There is no way we can check them out - you're on your own. However, if anyone ever got really stuck, I have not heard. I guess it has happened, but it is like buying anything else second-hand. No warranty, you takes your chances for the lesser price.

Thanks for the other nice words. Watch out for the Dingos!

DMW

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for a great magazine like 68' Micro Journal, please find enclosed a check for the amount of \$66.50 in order to extend my subscription for 2 more years.

I'd like to give thanks to Dr. J. Pentecost from G.I.T. (68MJ, Jun. 82, 38) for supplying me with the 6801 Tiny Basic and control related information.

Recently I had to disassemble the monitor codes (with some standard labels & comments) for the Compacta Uniboard sold by D.R.C. If some of your readers are interested in a copy, I'd be glad to send it to them.

Sincerely yours,
Prof. Ceza Holzhaker
Apdo. Correos #393,
Merida 5101.
VENEZUELA. (S. America)

d.p. johnson

microcomputer consulting
7655 southwest cedarcrest street • portland, oregon 97223 • (503) 244-8152

NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

TWO MEGABYTE SS-50C RAM DISK BOARD:

The RD2 is a 2 Megabyte "Ram Disk" board for SS-50 6809 systems operating at up to 2.25Mhz. The RD2 occupies 258 bytes of address space on the bus, two bytes are a sector select register, and 256 bytes a window into the ram. Up to 8 Boards may be used in one system to provide a ram disk with 16 Megabytes of storage. The RD2 is a four layer board 5.5" x 9", refresh is transparent to the system and because the average cycle rate of the rams is low the power consumption for 2 Mb. is under 1 Amp. The quantity one price for the fully populated, assembled and tested board is \$1150.00. A diskette with drivers for OS-9 level 1 & 2, a formatting program, and a test program is available separately for \$30.00. For more information or to order contact: D. P. Johnson (503) 244-8152.

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New Product!

CRASMB(tm) CROSS ASSEMBLER
NOW AVAILABLE FOR OS9/68000

PORTLAND, OREGON: LLOYD I/O announces the release of the CRASMB 8 bit Macro Cross Assembler for Microvare's OS9 disk operating system for the 68000 family of microprocessors. In recent increasing requests for the OS9/68000 version of CRASMB, LLOYD I/O has translated its four year old CRASMB for the OS9/68009 and FLEX/68009 to the OS9/68000 environment.

CRASMB supports assembly language software development for these microprocessors: 1802, 6502, 6800, 6801, 6303, 6804, 6805, 6809, 6811, TMS 7000, 8048/family, 8051/family, 8080/85, Z8, and the Z80. CRASMB is a full featured assembler with macro and conditional assembly facilities. It generates object code using 4 different formats: none, FLEX, Motorola S1-S9, and Intel Hex. Another format is available which outputs the source code after macro expansion, etc. CRASMB allows label (symbols) length to 30 characters and has label cross referencing options.

CRASMB for OS9/68000 is available for \$432 in US funds only. It may be purchased with VISA/MASTERCARD cards, checks, US money orders, or US government (federal, state, etc.) purchase orders. NOTE: please add \$5 shipping in the USA and use your street address for UPS shipments. Add \$38 for all overseas orders. CRASMB for OS9/68009 and FLEX/68009 cost \$399 plus shipping.

You may contact Frank Hoffman at LLOYD I/O, 19535 NE Glean, Portland, Oregon, 97238. Phone: (503) 666-1097. Telex: 910 380 5448, answer back: LLOYD I O. Easylink: 62846110.

(CRASMB is a trademark of LLOYD I/O, OS9 is a trademark of Microvare Systems, Inc., FLEX is a trademark of Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.)

LLOYD I/O • 19535 NE GLEAN STREET • PORTLAND, OR 97238 • FRANK HOFFMAN
(503) 666-1097 TWX 910 3805448 LLOYD: O

Gentlemen;

Here's a modified version of a patch I'm using in a bulletin board program currently under development. It might be of use to others wishing to make things easier for new or occasional users of FLEX systems.

It re-directs the error routine when the operator inputs a question mark as a command, listing a help file on the system drive called HELP.HLP instead of returning

*** WHAT?.

HELP.TXT is the assembler input listing.
HELP.ASM is the assembled output listing.
HELP.BIN is the assembled binary output file.
HELP.HLP is a sample help text file.

Best wishes for your continued success with an excellent and most valuable publication.

Jon H. Larimore

- 1. (H) HELP.HLP
- 2. (H) *
- 3. (H) * Pause Control is temporarily activated.
- 4. (H) *
- 5. (H) * Display of this file will be shown one screen at a time.
- 6. (H) *
- 7. (H) * To move on to the next screen, press the ESC key.
- 8. (H) *
- 9. (H) * To terminate display of this file, press RETURN.
- 10. (H) *
- 11. (H) *
- 12. (H) *
- 13. (H) *
- 14. (H) *
- 15. (H) *
- 16. (H) *
- 17. (H) *
- 18. (H) *
- 19. (H) *
- 20. (H) *
- 21. (H) *

22.00= This is a standard ASCII text file, created with any of several word
 23.00= processors or text editors.
 24.00= It might contain:
 25.00= 1. Instructions for navigating a bulletin-board system.
 26.00= 2. Calling syntax for a word processor.
 27.00= 3. A catalog of other text files containing information about and
 28.00= instructions for use of specific system utilities or programs,
 29.00= along with instructions for LISTING them.
 30.00= 4. A catalog of printed system instruction manuals and/or page
 31.00= numbers for specific problems.
 32.00= 33.00= 34.00= 35.00= 36.00= 37.00= 38.00= 39.00= 40.00= 41.00= 42.00= 43.00= END OF HELP FILE.
 44.00= 45.00=

```

1.00=
2.00= *****
3.00= 6809 FLEI HELP Patch
4.00=
5.00=  By Jan H. Larimore
6.00=  5900 Arlington Blvd.
7.00=  Arlington, Va. 22204
8.00=
9.00=  Last edit 08/29/85
10.00=
11.00=  HELP is a patch to the FLEI DOS which will
12.00=  list a text file on the system drive called
13.00=  "HELP.HLP" whenever a "?" is input as a
14.00=  command.  Instead of simply outputting
15.00=  "WHAT?".  It is intended to make the FLEI
16.00=  DOS somewhat friendlier for new or casual
17.00=  users.
18.00=
19.00=  HELP will temporarily activate the TTYSET
20.00=  depth and pause controls, then return
21.00=  them to their previous settings.
22.00=
23.00=  HELP normally resides in the unused FLEI
24.00=  print spooler area in a PT-69's RAM.
25.00=  If you're using this area for a spooler or
26.00=  other routine however, you may wish to ORG
27.00=  it at high memory (resetting MEMEM01, or
28.00=  perhaps in another available area.
29.00=
30.00=  You may either append this to your terminal
31.00=  drivers while creating a new FLEI.SYS, or
32.00=  simply GET it using the STARTUP routine.
33.00=
34.00=  The "qstart" equate below is an undocumented
35.00=  location in 6809 FLEI Version 3.01.  If
36.00=  you're using a different version of FLEI,
37.00=  you should verify it's accuracy prior to
38.00=  assembly.
39.00=
40.00=  To verify this, use your monitor memory dump
41.00=  routine to look at address $C0D9.  If the
42.00=  code "BE CC56" is there, you're OK.  If not,
43.00=  then again use the memory dump routine to find
44.00=  the string "WHAT?".  (located at $CC56 in 6809
45.00=  FLEI Version 3.01).  Then, find the "BE nnnn"
46.00=  ILDI ($nnnn) code in which "nnnn" is the
47.00=  address of the first byte of "WHAT?" in your
48.00=  FLEI.  The address of the "BE" byte of that
49.00=  "BE nnnn" code should be your correct
50.00=  "qstart" equate.
51.00=
52.00=  Also, check the value of "trdasp" here.  It is
53.00=  set for a 24-line terminal display.  You may
54.00=  need to change it.
55.00=
56.00=
57.00=  DOS Constants
58.00=
59.00=  C0B0 linput equ  $C0B0   Input line buffer
60.00=  C700 pspool equ  $C700   Print spooler area (unused)
61.00=  L/10 quecnt equ  $C/10  Print queue counter
62.00=  CC03 deptcnt equ  $CC03  TTYSET display depth count

```

```

63.00=
64.00=  CC09 paucan equ  $CC09  TTYSET pause control
65.00=  CC11 lstrin equ  $CC11  Last terminator character
66.00=  CC14 bufptr equ  $CC14  Input line buffer pointer
67.00=  CC16 escreg equ  $CC16  Escape return register
68.00=  CC03 marast equ  $CC03  Macro start
69.00=  CC1E pstrng equ  $CC1E  Print a string
70.00=  CC4B docand equ  $CC4B  Call DOS as a subroutine
71.00=
72.00=  CDD9 qstart equ  $CDD9  >>> VERIFY BEFORE ASSEMBLY <<<
73.00=
74.00=  If "?" is input as a DOS command, then
75.00=  list "HELP.HLP"
76.00=
77.00=  CDD9          org  qstart  Point to DOS "?" process area
78.00=  CDD9 ?E       fcb  $?e     Stuff "JMP" mnemonic into this byte
79.00=  CDDA C71A     fdb  help1   Stuff address of this routine into
80.00=                                     jump vector
81.00=
82.00=  Run this routine in the unused spooler area
83.00=
84.00=
85.00=  C700          org  pspool
86.00=
87.00=  Delete from here to "trdasp" if you relocate
88.00=  this code to another memory area
89.00=
90.00=  Disable print spooler jump vectors
91.00=
92.00=  lcb  $39,$39,$39  Pal AT'S's here
93.00=  fcb  $39,$39,$39
94.00=  fcb  $39,$39,$39
95.00=  lcb  $39,$39,$39
96.00=  fcb  $39,$39,$39
97.00=  fcb  $39,$39,$39
98.00=  fcb  $39,$39,$39
99.00=
100.00=  C71A          org  quecnt  Spooler queue counter
101.00=  C71A          lcb  0
102.00=
103.00=  C71C          org  trdasp  fcb  24      Number of lines your terminal can display?
104.00=  C71D          lcb  0      Temporary depth flag
105.00=  C71E          lcb  0      Temporary pause flag
106.00=
107.00=  C71F          org  help1   lda  lstrin  Get the last non-alpha character input
108.00=  C720          cpa  0?     Was it a question mark?
109.00=  C721          and  help9   No, output "WHAT?"
110.00=  C722          sty  0strin  Yes, point to HELP file name
111.00=  C723          lda  0linput  Point to first character of input line buffer
112.00=  C724          lda  ,+     Get 4 character, point to the next one
113.00=  C725          cpa  04     Is it the string terminator?
114.00=  C726          beq  help5   Yes
115.00=  C727          vlc  ,+     No, store it, point to next buffer location
116.00=  C728          jmp  help2   Store next character
117.00=  C729          ldd  0linput  Get input buffer address
118.00=  C72A          stb  bufptr  Store it in buffer pointer
119.00=
120.00=  Set TTYSET terminal display lines and pause
121.00=
122.00=  C72B          org  help1   ldt  deptnt  Is terminal line depth set?
123.00=  C72C          beq  help4   Yes
124.00=  C72D          inc  deptnt  No, set temporary flag
125.00=  C72E          lda  trdasp  Get number of lines terminal can display
126.00=  C72F          lta  deptnt  Store it in TTYSET depth register
127.00=  C730          help1  ldt  paucan  Is pause on?
128.00=  C731          beq  help5   Yes
129.00=  C732          inc  paucan  No, set temporary flag
130.00=  C733          lda  0110   Get "pause on" value
131.00=  C734          stb  paucan  Turn terminal "pause" on
132.00=  C735          help5  ldd  0escreg  Get return address for escape/return
133.00=  C736          stb  escreg  Store it
134.00=  C737          jsr  docand  Call DOS as a subroutine
135.00=
136.00=  Reset TTYSET to previous settings
137.00=
138.00=  C738          help6  ldt  deptnt  Temporary depth setting?
139.00=  C739          beq  help7   No
140.00=  C73A          clr  deptnt  Yes, clear flag
141.00=  C73B          clr  paucan  And clear depth counter
142.00=  C73C          help7  ldt  paucan  Temporary pause setting?
143.00=  C73D          beq  help8   No
144.00=  C73E          clr  paucan  Yes, clear flag
145.00=  C73F          clr  paucan  And clear pause control
146.00=  C740          help8  jmp  marast  Return to macro start
147.00=
148.00=  C741          help9  ldx  0marast  Point to "WHAT?"
149.00=  C742          jsr  pstrng  Output it
150.00=  C743          jmp  marast  Return to macro start
151.00=
152.00=  C744          org  0110   bptrc  lcb  'L151,$.HELP.HLP',0,0
153.00=  C745          whatst  lcb  'WHAT?':0

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Canadian Concepts Limited

17 Wagoners Trail, Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1G 3M9
(519) 824 0911

Computer Publishing Center
68' Micro Journal
5900 Cassandra Smith Rd.
Hixson, Tn. 37343

Dear Don:

I have thoroughly enjoyed your magazine over the years and wish you all the best in your continuing efforts to provide the dedicated users of Motorola microprocessor's with current information and editorial comments. As an engineer and microprocessor user since the days of Intel's 4004 I found that the Motorola 6800 and 6809 microprocessor designs have been easier to program, and easier to teach programming with than the Intel devices. At this time I would like to present you with my vision of a dream machine for the 68xxx users. The Apple Macintosh was a start but no expansion and to restricted, the Commodore Amiga looks promising as well as AT&T's Unix pc, and perhaps the Pinnacle.

First the hardware requirements. The machine must use a 68000 preferably a 68020 with a 68881 math coprocessor or at least a socket and support for it. The disk controller must support DMA and handle hard disks as well as floppies. The floppies must be capable of one megabyte or as close as possible. The chassis should have the capability of mounting at least one full size five and one quarter inch hard disk, and a three inch floppy or five and one quarter inch floppy drive. The machine should support at least two serial ports as well as the console keyboard and a bidirectional parallel port that may be used as a centronics port or input from electronic devices. Four serial ports would be preferred with one of them reserved for network installation. Memory for this machine should not be limited to 512k but should start at 512k with some sockets for expansion to one megaword of memory with some buss extender for further expansion. The ideal machine should have at least medium resolution graphics in the order of 512 x 480 pixels and virtual screen support. A high resolution mode of 1024 x 1024 would be delightful. Color would be nice as well as multiple screens. Please don't default white on blue for text mode, how about black on white as the Mac or green on black with a faint border. Sprites would be an interesting way to support graphic symbols etc, as well as animation. The Amiga appears to be capable of this. The graphics outputs should include RGB digital and RGB analog as well as a composite video output. The Amiga's speech is nice as well as the sound generation chips. The system should support a mouse. The Macintosh's mouse and the operating systems support of the mouse is a little too restrictive. I would like the mouse to have a cross hair as well as a linear motion mode for digitizing and drawing. The above requirement may require that the mouse have two motion wheels to detect rotation of the mouse. That fairly well sums up the hardware requirements except for a battery backed up time of day clock chip and that the cpu speed be as fast as possible.

The software requirements are also quite stringent. The windowing capability and pull down menu of the Macintosh is nice for a lot of applications but having used Unix system "V" and the "csh" (c shell) with the command line expansion features and it's programming language I demand that the operating system support both. The csh has been an invaluable tool as many programs in Unix are shell executable files calling system utilities making use of various filters etc. The shell has saved the systems group a lot of programming by making use of the piping feature and various filters. The serial port drivers must be able to handle bidirectional Xoff/Xon flow control and be capable of generating and trapping a break. The ideal operating system

than would probably be Os9 as in many ways it is faster and more reliable than Unix for a single user system. The machine should have some CAD/CAM software capable of generating printed wiring boards and schematics. The graphics software should support a laser printer for dumping the graphic images as well as all Hewlett Packard and Houston Instruments plotters. The programming languages should include Basic/Basic09, Pascal, C, Fortran77, STSC's APL, and perhaps ADA and Modula. These languages should all make use of the coprocessor if installed. Microware's Basic09 is fairly complete but it lacks some of the flexibility of even the Apple's applesoft basic. The major feature is being able to dynamically dimension array sizes at run time. This simple feature of :A=100 and Dim array(3,A) has limited Basic09 many times when trying to write universal statistics packages. It would be nice to have some data base software perhaps similar to the packages on the IBM pc's or Unix's unify.

The reasons for some of these hardware and software requirements I admit depend on the intended use. Currently I am employed at a University where we use computers to display stimuli on the crt and measure the time for a subjects response, as well as controlling laboratories, collecting data, and analysing the data. The Mac has not been a good machine as it is very difficult to measure a simple yes/no response via a parallel port or to signal external equipment other than through the serial ports, and has no multiple video screen support. Primarily we have been using the Micat 68000 (Unix system V), Gimix 6809 system(Os9), Apple's, and IBM pc's (yech). The pc's are very flexible and have lots of software but I detest the architecture (ancient and slow although having math coprocessor makes them faster in some applications).

Please excuse the rambling but I've been waiting patiently for this machine. The technology is here and so are the customers. Perhaps Apple has something in the works or perhaps the Amiga with Os9 may be acceptable. We as users keep hearing rumors of such machines, where are they, how much longer will we wait before buying those blue machines.

Yours Truly,

Wray Kutton

NEW PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

Peripheral Technology is announcing a new single board computer, the PT-69-4. The PT-69-4 was designed specifically with OS/9 in mind, plus expanded capability. The board has 59K of user Ram as opposed to 56K in the PT-69-4. It also has two additional serial ports. The PT-69-4 features:

- * 6809 Processor with 1 MHz Clock
- * Four RS-232 Serial Ports using 6850 ACIA's
- * Two 8-bit Parallel Ports using 6821 PIA
- * Time-of-day clock (MCL46818). A battery holder is on board for a lithium battery.
- * 59K of User Ram
- * 4K EPROM
- * 8 Double sided/double density controller chip
- * Board can be configured to read standard Microware and CoCo disk formats with a single jumper change.
- * OS/9 available for either the PT format or Microware CoCo format.
- * Board size: 8.4" x 5.5"

PRICING: In single quantities, the board is \$325. Quantity discounts are available. OS/9 for the PT-69-4 is \$200.

For more information, contact:
PERIPHERAL TECHNOLOGY
1480 Terrell Hill Rd. Suite 870
Marietta, Ga 30067
404/973-0042

OS/9 is a trademark of Microware and Motorola.

Dear Don,

Many thanks for the back issues for 1985-I've been on holiday for most of August and all but the Mach issue have arrived already.

Please send me the 1984 issues from July to December inclusive.

Keep up the good work. I first saw microcomputers in 1976 in the Computer Store on 5th Avenue New York. They had MITS, IMSAI with the crazy front panel stolen from a DEC PDP8, and (of course) SWTPC. I was using SWTPC gear up to a year ago (S/O9 under UniFlex) til I changed jobs. I'm really pleased to see that maga and manufacturers from then are still around.

The current machine (my first) is a 56K S50 buss box assembled by me from UK boards. Didnt build it till three years ago as I was scared of the time I knew I would spend on it-I also fly model planes competitively-so held off as long as poss. I think FLEX is ideal for this type of machine and dont see the need for more RAM. I am a professional programmer/analyst and think that huge memory have merely made designers and implementors sloppy. My first mainframe had all of 60Kb plus 8Mb of disk. In 1970 we were running a timesharing system with 4 terminals and 6 tasks in 96Kb and 24Mb disk and it seemed fast to us then.

In general the software available under FLEX is at least as good as I have seen on many mainframes and minis. You will look in vain for a source-level symbolic debugger such as PL/9 has on machines like VAXen.

All the best,
M.C. Gregorie

10 Sadlere Mead
Harlow
Essex CM18 6HG
U.K.
(0279) 445174

PRESS RELEASE

CMX / SCULPTOR AT COMDEX NOV. 20-24

GIMIX will be demonstrating SCULPTOR running on the GMX 68020 UniFlex-VM system at COMDEX. COMDEX will be held from Nov. 20 through the 24th, 1985 in Las Vegas. MPD, the developers of SCULPTOR, will be occupying Booth H7171 in the new Hilton Pavilion. You are invited to stop by for a demonstration.

Classified Advertising

Tano Outpost II, 56K, 2 5"DSDD Drives, FLEX, MUMPS \$895.

MICROKEY 4500 Single Board Computer, Target 128K RAM, FLEX, FORTH, with optional 6502 CPU & ROMS as advertised on p.51 Dec.84 68 Miro Journal. \$2300.

LSI 68008 CPU Card with Digital Research CPM/68K \$350.

1-PT-69 complete with Dual 5" DSDD Disk System and Controller, includes FLEX DOS.

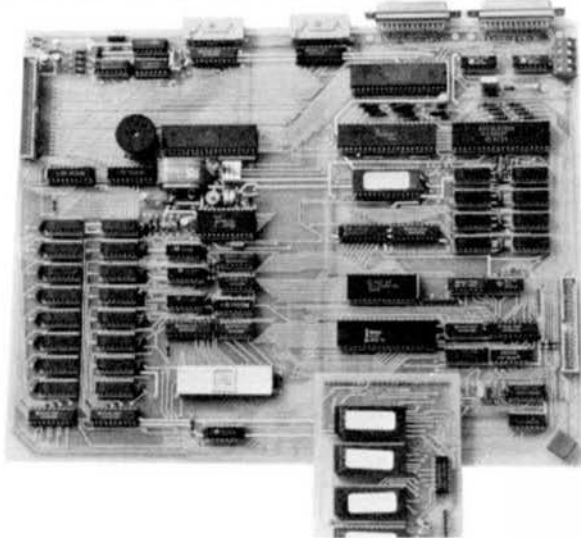
TELETYPE Model 43 PRINTER - with serial (RS232) interface, and full ASCII keyboard. LIKE NEW - New cost \$1295.00 - ONLY \$559.00 ready to run.

S/O9 with Motorola 128K RAM, 1-MPS2, 1-Parallel Port, MP-09 CPU Card \$1990. 1-DMAF2 Dual 8" Drives with Controller \$2190. 1-CDS1 20 Meg Hard Disk System with Controller \$2400.

I will accept any reasonable counter-offer if
Call Tom (615) 842-4600 M-F 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. E.S.T.

EXORDISC II, EXOTERM 200, EXOCISOR 784 Printer.
Tony Stein, Box 9211, Alexandria Va. 22304. (903)978-4766.

MICROBOX II Single Board Computer



Microbox II SBC bare board (12x9.5 inch) \$190
plus eeprom disc bare board (4x3 inch)
plus firmware and system utility disc (5.25 40 track)
Supplied with full construction and operating notes.
Firmware source code on disc. \$ 29
Small "C" compiler (6809) w/7220A graphic libraries. \$ 100
Small "C" compiler (6801) object. \$ 130
Prices include airmail postage.

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Telephone: (0242) 540525

Microbox II is a powerful 6809 based single board computer packed with innovative features in an easy to build form.

Running under the Flex operating system it contains 60K of dynamic ram, 8K of eeprom, high resolution text and graphic displays, up to 500 sector ramdisc, up to 512 sector eeprom disc, floppy disc controller, serial and parallel I/O, real-time clock and eeprom programmer.

An eeprom disc that looks to Flex like a standard write protected drive can be programmed with anything that would normally be on floppy - including Flex itself. A ram disc that looks like a standard unprotected disc acts as a very fast work disc. Support for two floppy drives is also on-board.

Exceptional monochrome graphic capabilities are provided by a NEC7220A graphic display controller which gives very fast drawing speeds through hardware vector, circle, rectangle, pattern and area fill generation. The Flex operating system can be booted from any standard system disc - configuration is carried out automatically by the supplied firmware - and all the usual software can be used.

Microbox II can be controlled from a standard serial terminal a serial / parallel keyboard and video monitor or a mixture of both.

Specification:

68B09E microprocessor supporting 60K of dynamic ram and 8K firmware.
7220A graphic display controller supporting 128K of dynamic ram partitioned as monochrome video display and ramdisc.
Text display of 84x24 or 108x24 characters. Or invent your own format.
Graphic display of 768x576 pixels. Very fast hardware vectors etc.
Composite video and separate video / sync outputs.
Eeprom disc using four 23128 devices. An eeprom programmer is on board.
Floppy disc controller for 48 or 96 tpi single/double density drives.
Two RS232 serial ports with programmable baudrates. 50 - 19200 baud.
Centronics type parallel printer port.
Parallel keyboard port.
Battery backed real-time clock/calendar.
DIP switch selection of input source, output destination and autoboot.
Additional I/O capability via user expansion buss.
100's of Microbox II's currently in use worldwide.

The firmware includes system diagnostics, utilities, graphic primitives, terminal emulator and auto-configuration that ensures that the board will boot from any standard Flex system disc.
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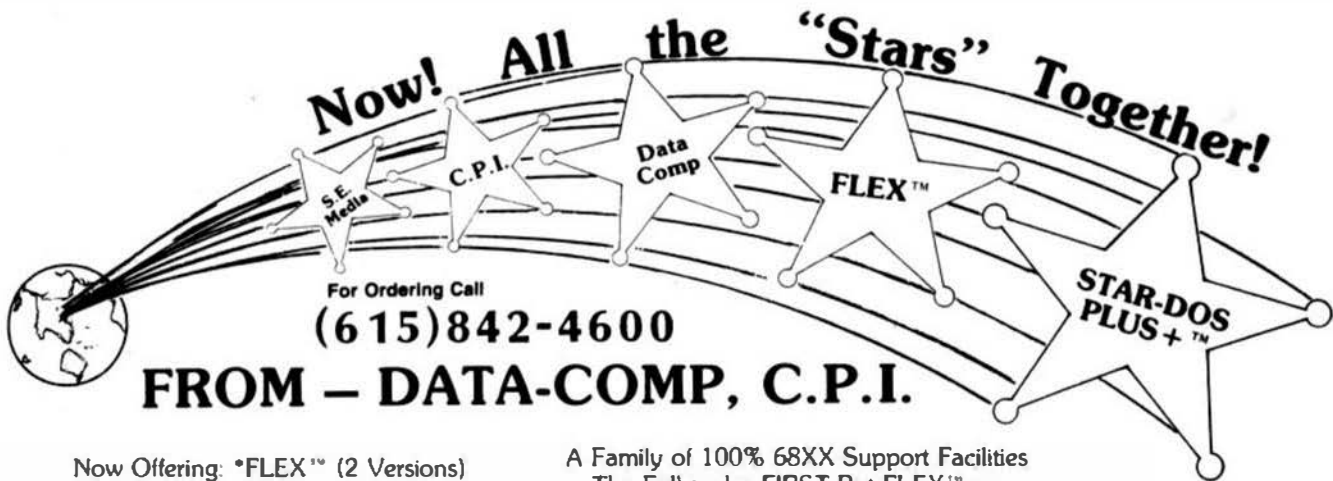
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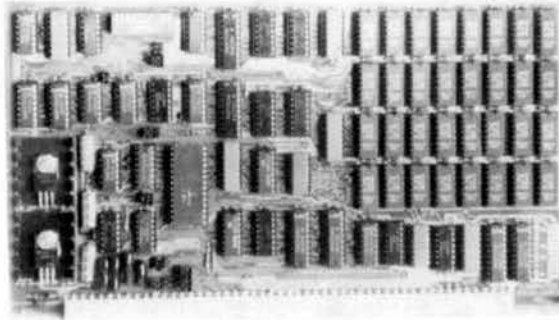
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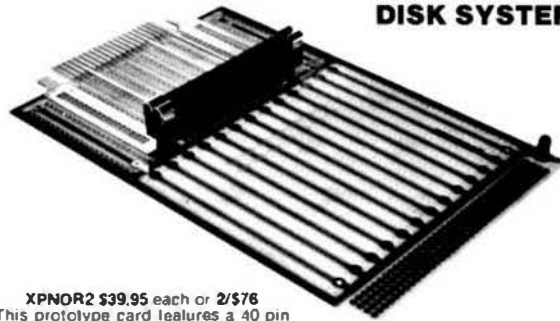
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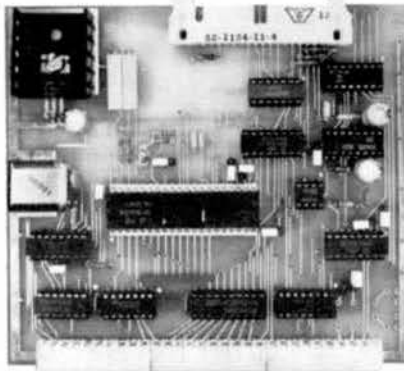
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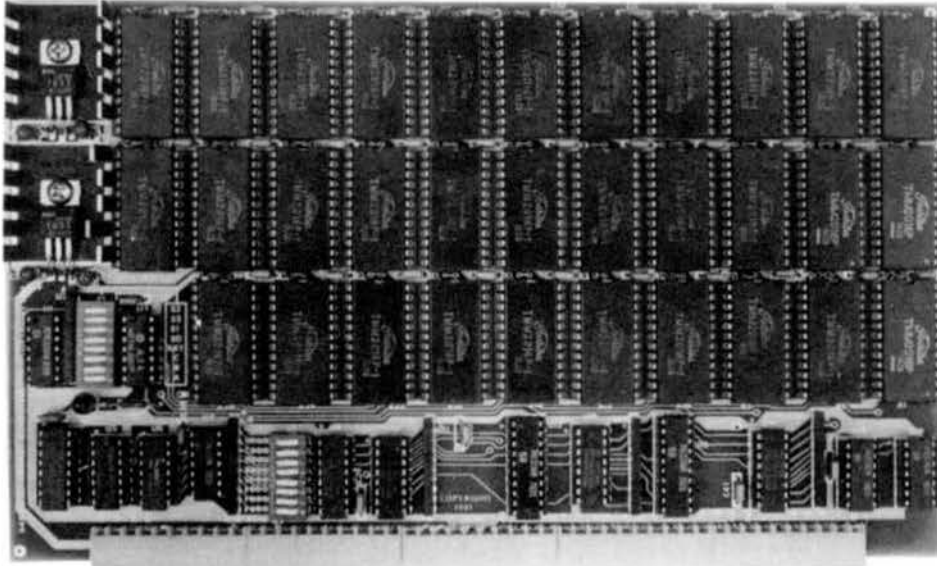
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- g. COPY a selected area of an EPROM into the buffer.
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- j. SELECT a new EPROM type (return to type menu).
- k. EMER the system monitor.
- l. RETURN to the operating system.
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- Built-in optimizer will shorten object code by about 11%.
- Supports interleaved assembly language programs.
- INCLUDES its own assembler. The TSC relocating assembler is only required if you want to generate your own libraries.
- The pre-processor, compiler, optimizer, assembler and loader all run independently or under the 'CC' executive. 'CC' makes compiling a program to executable object as simple as typing in 'CC,HELLO.C <RETURN>'.

PL/9

• Friendly interactive environment where you have INSTANT access to the Editor, the Compiler, and the trace-debugger, which, amongst other things, can single step the program a SOURCE line at a time. You also have direct access to any FLEX utility and your system monitor.

- 375+ page manual organized as a tutorial with plenty of examples.
- Fast SINGLE PASS compiler produces 8K of COMPACT and FAST 6809 machine code output per minute with no run-time overheads or license fees.
- Fully compatible with TSC text editor format disk files.
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- Control statements: IF..THEN..ELSE, IF..CASE1..CASE2..ELSE, BEGIN..END, WHILE.., REPEAT..UNTIL, REPEAT..FOREVER, CALL, JUMP, RETURN, BREAK, GOTO.
- Direct access to (ACCA), (ACCB), (ACCD), (XREG), (CCR) and (STACK).
- FULLY supports the MC6809 RESET, NMI, FIRQ, IRQ, SWI, SWI2, and SWI3 vectors. Writing a self-starting (from power-up) program that uses ANY, or ALL, of the MC6809 interrupts is an absolute snap!

• Machine code may be embedded in the program via the 'GEN' statement. This enables you to code critical routines in assembly language and embed them in the PL/9 program (see 'MACE' for details).

• Procedures may be passed and may return variables. This makes them functions which behave as though they were an integral part of PL/9.

• Several fully documented library procedure modules are supplied: (OSUBS, BITIO, HARDIO, HEIO, FLEXIO, SCIPACK, STRSUBS, BASTRING, and REALCON.

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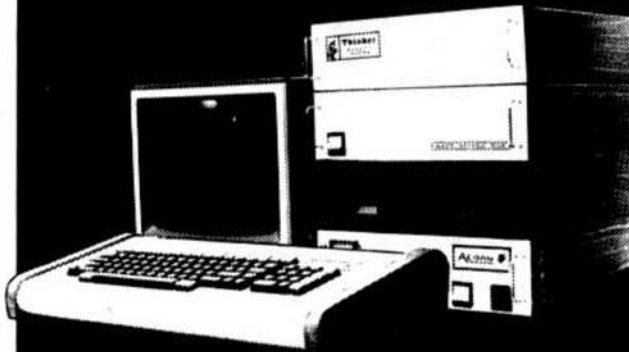
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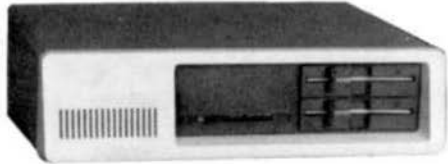
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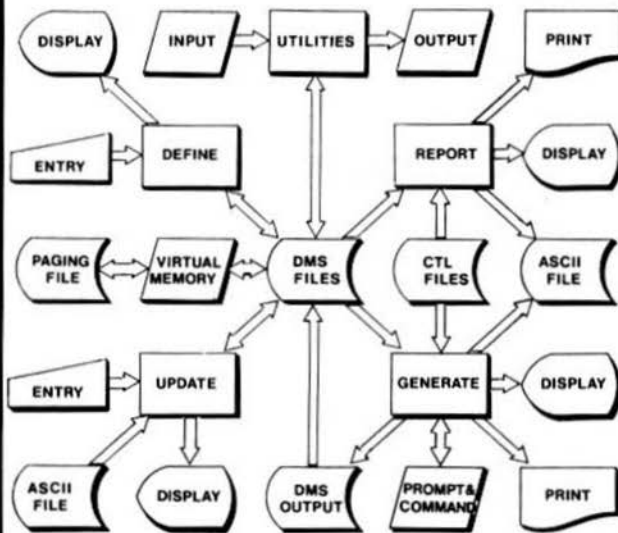
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Dual 80 Track DSDD Drives	\$2998.49	\$3398.39	\$4898.79	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
19MB Hard Disk and one 80 track Floppy Disk	\$5598.49	\$5998.39	\$7798.79	\$5998.39	\$8098.89	\$11,680.20	\$13,680.20
72 MB Hard Disk and one 80 track	\$7598.49	\$7998.39	\$9798.79	\$7998.39	\$10,098.89	\$13,680.20	\$15,680.20
a 72MB + a 6MB removable pack hard disk and one 80 track floppy	\$9098.49	\$9498.30	N/A	\$9498.39	N/A	N/A	N/A
a 72MB + a 12MB removable pack hard disk and one 80 track floppy	N/A	N/A	\$11,298.79	N/A	\$11,598.89	\$15,180.20	\$17,180.20
GMX 6809 OS9/FLEX SYSTEMS SOFTWARE							
OS9 + Editor, Assembler, Debugger	GMX I Included	GMX II Included	GMX III Included				
FLEX	Included	Included	Included				
GMXBUG Monitor	Included	Included	Included				
Basic OS9, RunB (OS9)	Included	Included	Included				
RMS (OS9)	Included	Included	Included				
DO (OS9)	Included	Included	Included				
VDisk for FLEX	N/A	Included	Included				
RAMDisk for OS9	N/A	\$125 option	Included				
O-FLEX	N/A	\$250 option	Included				
Support ROM	N/A	N/A	Included				
Hardware CRC	N/A	N/A	Included				

GMX 68020 SYSTEMS

TO ORDER BY MAIL: SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER OR USE YOUR VISA OR MASTER CHARGE. Please allow 3 weeks for personal checks to clear. U.S. orders add \$5 handling if order is under \$200.00. Foreign orders add \$10 handling if order is under \$200.00. Foreign orders over \$200.00 will be shipped via Emery Air Freight COLLECT, and we will charge no handling. All orders must be prepaid in U.S. funds. Please note that foreign checks have been taking about 8 weeks for collection so we would advise wiring money, or checks drawn on a bank account in the U.S. Our bank is the Continental Illinois National Bank of Chicago, 231 S. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60683, account number 73-32033.

BASIC-09 and OS-9 are trademarks of Microware Systems Corp. and MOTOROLA, Inc. FLEX and UniFLEX are trademarks of Technical Systems Corporation, Inc. GIMIX, GHOST, GMX, CLASSY CHASSIS, are trademarks of GIMIX, Inc.

GIMIX inc.

1337 WEST 37th PLACE
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609
 (312) 927-5510 • TWX 910-221-4055



Available: Wide variety of languages and other software for use with either OS-9 or FLEX.

All GIMIX versions of OS9 can read and write RS color computer format OS9 disks, as well as the Microware/GIMIX standard format.

All OS9/FLEX systems allow you to software select either operating system.

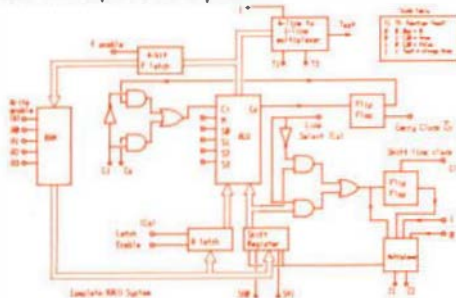
Southwest Technical Products Announces:

CAD Southwest A Computer-Aided Drafting System

Dealer
Inquiries Invited

Designed for the Professional

Southwest's Computer-Aided Drafting System represents the state of the art in computer-aided drafting. It eliminates the need for labor intensive drafting using the traditional T-square and triangle approach. Via keyboard or a sophisticated digitizer tablet, you can quickly and easily prepare even the most complicated drawings. Naturally, changes can be easily made at any time. A library of standard symbols is provided as well as the flexibility of a user defined symbol library. Drawings may be printed on either a line printer or a plotter.



Increased Productivity

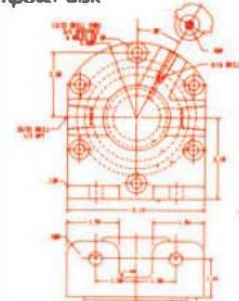
A powerful set of commands allows even the novice user the ability to quickly and easily prepare complex drawings. The experienced draftsman will quickly realize substantial improvements in productivity. The computer assumes the entire burden of line and arc drawing, freeing the user to concentrate on design issues. A partial list of key features includes:

- no limit to number of drawings
- standard grid pattern, used for reference; will increase or decrease with scale
- isometric grid pattern - similar to standard
- library mode - complete objects can be drawn and stored in users' library for later use in any drawing
- mirror objects - images of objects in library can be easily duplicated
- the terminal screen acts as a window by which the user can quickly move large drawings

- draw/delete functions:
 - arc/fillets (solid or dashed)
 - circles (solid or dashed)
 - lines and sequence of lines (solid or dashed)
 - true horizontal/vertical lines
 - center lines
 - dimension lines
 - extension lines
 - dimension lines perpendicular to extension lines
 - extension lines perpendicular to normal lines
 - boxes; any shape or size defined by two diagonal endpoints
 - library objects: previously defined library objects drawn or deleted with a couple of keystrokes

- area fills
- special functions:
 - change line mode: solid to dashed, dashed to solid
 - sector circle: save portion of circle as arc
 - segment lines: break single line into two lines
- scale using factor - choose desired scale multiple
- scale using window - "zoom in" and work on a selected area
- complete set of labels - comprehensive label generation component to annotate drawings
- overlays - any drawing can have up to 255 overlays
- cursor functions:
 - variable size: user can scale cursor to convenient size
 - variable step: user can select single pixel/giant step for movement of cursor
 - homing: cursor can be quickly moved to 9 possible predefined home positions on screen

- complete disk-oriented library maintains routines that allow you to maintain your drawings on the computer disk



Big System Features

As you prepare your drawing, you can control which portion is available for work on the terminal screen. Simple commands allow you to move up, down and sideways to view different segments of a large drawing. "CAD ZOOM" allows you to quickly "zoom in," turning your terminal into a computerized magnifying glass for detailed review of individual sections. "CAD ZOOM" compresses the drawing, allowing you to look at multiple sets of the drawing on one screen.

A powerful overlay feature supports up to 255 overlays for the same drawing. For example, you may wish to have the floor plan on one overlay, electrical wiring on a second, HVAC on a third, and so forth.

The Right Equipment

CAD Southwest runs on the proven SWTPC family of computers operating under UniFLEX®, a UNIX™ like operating system. Five to eighteen terminals, depending on the model number, can be attached to the CPU with a variety of hard disk storage for your drawings.

The industrial quality X-12 terminal from Southwest provides crisp resolution and a 92-key keyboard. A digitizing tablet may be optionally attached to each terminal.

Drawings may be printed on a dot matrix printer or optionally on an 8 color pen plotter.



ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN USING CAD-SOUTHWEST DRAFTING SYSTEM

UNIX™ is a trademark of AT&T Bell Laboratories. UniFLEX® is a registered trademark of Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.



Southwest Technical Products, Corp.

219 West Rhapsody • San Antonio, Texas 78216

(512) 344-0241

Southwest Technical Products Announces:

The X-12+. . . The Solutions System

Dealer
Inquiries Invited

The X-12+ System is a state of the art Systems Solution for multi-user data-intensive applications.

Solutions Hardware

At the heart of the system is a Motorola 68B09 processor delivered with 256KB (optionally expandable to 1 megabyte), and bench-marked at performances



comparable to those of several Motorola 68000 UNIX™ systems.

The central processing unit, main memory and four RS232 serial ports are housed in the CRT cabinet enclosure.

The X-12 CRT is a professional quality unit which includes a de-

tached 92 key keyboard including 15 function keys, cursor control keys, and a numeric keypad.

Next to the X-12 CRT sits the mass storage sub-system. The X-12+ Model WC20 includes a 22 megabyte (formatted) half height 5¼" Winchester Mass Storage Device with an 85 millisecond average access time and a 5¼" floppy disk with 1.25 megabytes. The X-12+ WC40 system includes a 33 megabyte (formatted) Winchester disk with an average 85 millisecond access time.

The WC40 Model includes a 5¼" floppy as well as a 40 megabyte streaming tape sub-system.

A variety of additional peripherals are available for X-12+ systems including printers, digitizers, and plotters.

Both systems provide the user with an exceptional price/performance solution.

Solutions Software

UniFLEX® (a UNIX™ look-alike) provides a powerful multi-user, multi-tasking operating system. UniFLEX®

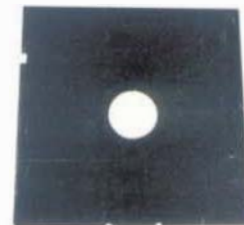


resides in less than 60,000 bytes of main memory. Naturally, the X-12+ Solutions System supports Basic, "C", Cobol, Fortran, and Pascal, making the X-12+ an ideal development environment for a variety of applications.

Data Base, Word Processing, and Spread Sheet programs are only a few of the many application products available for the Solutions System. A variety of vertical application products are available through an international Network of Southwest Dealers.

Southwest Technical Products Corporation, provides complete manufacturing, training, maintenance and marketing support to its dealers and users from its 68,000

square foot facility in San Antonio, Texas. Its 20 year commitment to excellence is demonstrated by the X-12+ family of Systems Solutions.



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